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THE JERUSALEM POST

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TODAY
The glue that binds world Jewry — Page 3.
Industry in hard times — but not for all — Page 5.
Aging in Utopia — Magazine Page 8.

Fifteen held in killing of policeman in Old City

By BARBARA AMOUYAL
Jerusalem Post Reporter
Two masked men cut down a police officer with a burst of automatic fire yesterday morning at Jaffa Gate in the capital's Old City in what police believe was a coldly planned murder.
Sgt. Maj. Avraham Bayazi, 30, was shot in the head and chest as he was driving to work at the Kishle station. He had served there for the past year as chief intelligence officer.
Ballistic experts have determined that Bayazi was slain by a Kalashnikov assault rifle. The killers apparently had been lying in wait for the officer, and began driving towards him as his car approached. As the two cars passed, one of the assassins opened fire.
Bayazi managed to fire a shot in the direction of his attackers before he collapsed. He missed, however, and the men raced off in the direction of Sultan's Pool.
Still clutching his pistol, Bayazi was rushed to Bikur Holim Hospital. He was pronounced dead on arrival.
A resident of a Jerusalem Corridor moshav was lightly wounded in the shooting. Shimon Patito was treated for superficial cuts caused by a bullet shattering his windshield. Patito was driving with his wife Aviava past Jaffa Gate at the time of the shooting.
"I was sure that some terrorist activity was going on," said Patito. But police are convinced that the men driving what police later determined was a stolen blue Volkswagen had intended to kill Bayazi. "They were waiting for him. They knew exactly where and when to do the job," a patrolman at the scene told The Post.
Bayazi was privy to information concerning Jerusalem underworld figures, especially those in East Jerusalem. "We are convinced that the



Sgt. Maj. Bayazi (Rahamin Israeli).

Farewell from astronaut teacher

SOMERS, Connecticut (AP). — A school class received a handwritten letter from Christa McAuliffe on Wednesday urging the students to "reach for the stars" and thanking them for a letter they had sent.
McAuliffe, a high school social studies teacher, and six astronauts were killed Tuesday when the space shuttle Challenger exploded shortly after liftoff.
McAuliffe's letter, dated January 20, thanks Quaglar's American history class, whose students are around 13 years old, for the letter and resolution they sent her on January 15.
Bone fragments and human tissue were found washed up on a Florida beach last night. Officials said they were trying to determine if they were partial remains of the seven astronauts killed aboard Challenger.



Vice Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir is given a cordial welcome at Kibbutz Bror Hayil during his visit yesterday to northern Negev settlements. (GPO)

'Egypt not interested in a settlement'

Shamir denies Likud hampering peace moves

By Post Diplomatic Correspondent and Itim
Foreign Minister and Likud leader Yitzhak Shamir yesterday lambasted Alignment leaders, and especially Minister-without-Portfolio Ezer Weizman, for suggesting that the Likud is impeding if not actually torpedoing peace efforts between Israel and the Arab states.
Shamir also attacked the view that Egypt, as some Israelis maintain, is interested in improving relations with the Jewish state.
Speaking yesterday to students at the regional college in Sha'ar HaNegev, Shamir said that Egypt is not interested in a more meaningful peace with Israel. Egypt is primarily concerned with regaining its place as the head of the Arab world, said Shamir, "and this situation cannot be changed, neither by the smiles of Ezer Weizman nor by the return of Taba."

Dispute over Chief Rabbi's comment on Temple Mount

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter
Sephardi Chief Rabbi Mordechai Eliahu yesterday told leaders of the Faithful of the Temple Mount that his proposed synagogue there should be higher than the domes of the Akshat Mosque and the Dome of the Rock.
The statement aroused an immediate furor in some rabbinical circles opposing Eliahu's view, and others reserving comment. Within the Chief Rabbinate itself, at least one spokesman tried to mitigate Eliahu's remarks, insisting that the chief rabbi had been misquoted and had not actually spoken of a synagogue on the Temple Mount itself.
But in a radio interview last night, Eliahu repeated that the synagogue should be built on the eastern edge of the Temple Mount, "which in any case is the highest part" and that entry to the synagogue would be from outside the area, thus eliminating the need to walk across what might be sacred ground. He also said the issue did not relate to the Moslems as it would be built outside their shrines, adding that the construction of such a synagogue was not "necessary," but only "possible."

Liberals OK merger; now it's up to Herut

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN and SARAH BONIG
Jerusalem Post Reporters
RAMAT GAN. — The Liberal Party council last night voted in favour of merging with Herut to form the Likud Movement in what could well be the party's last meeting as an independent bloc. The merger now depends on the decision of Herut's central committee.
The proposal made by Finance Minister and party president chairman Yitzhak Moda'i according to the terms set by Herut gives the Liberals a one-third representation in all the new movement's institutions and in the Knesset for the next four years.
Liberals are concerned, however, that Herut might employ delaying tactics now that the Liberal threat to split the Likud Knesset faction has been removed for the time being. The consensus among the Liberals yesterday was that Herut would have stalled even longer had it not been for the fear that the splitting of the Knesset faction would sabotage the rotation for the premiership.

'Victory' for S. Yemen rebels

ADEN (AP). — The bloody confrontation between South Yemen's Marxist rivals appeared yesterday to have been decided in favour of the hardline, Moscow-backed rebels, Arab diplomatic sources reported.
The Aden-based communist doctrinaires managed earlier in the week to flush out a few pockets of resistance and pronounce President Ali Nasser Mohammed a "traitorous criminal."
The rebels removed Mohammed and named Prime Minister Heidar al-Attas as interim president.
The deposed president then took to his hometown in the eastern province of Abyan, where he set up a makeshift radio station, rallied tribesmen to his cause and threatened to march on Aden and wrest power back from the rebels.
The rebels, with apparent Soviet moral support and military supplies, moved from defence to offence and sent columns of armoured vehicles to crush Mohammed's followers in Abyan.
Arab diplomatic sources along the Gulf region said that Mohammed was removed mainly on account of opposition to his policy of cordiality and cooperation toward South Yemen's pro-western neighbours, primarily Saudi Arabia and Oman and also because of his bid to liberalize the economy.

Workers agree to 30% cut in pay to save shipyards

The Israel Shipyards workers yesterday agreed to take a 30 per cent wage cut, in order to keep all of them at work.
According to an arrangement reached in the Jerusalem District Court, the employees agreed to return to work for 70 per cent of their current wages and the temporary receiver agreed that all 650 of them would be back on the job.
The arrangement is for one month. During this time, the temporary receiver is to attempt to work out a plan for the permanent operation of the yard.
The court proceedings opened with the receiver stating that the yard had orders amounting to 25,000 hours of production work and 6,000 hours of engineering orders for the coming month, which meant there was work for 345 employees. The other 305, he said, should be sent on unpaid leave.
After the workers' representatives came up with their counter-proposal, the two sides were called in for consultation by the judge.
The employees reserved the right to demand the extra 30 per cent at a later date. The judge said that the arrangement was temporary, and that it depended on \$4 million being put at the disposal of the temporary receiver by the government. (Itim)

Appeal to U.S. on Syrian missiles

By WOLF BLITZER
WASHINGTON. — The major pro-Israeli lobbying organization in Washington yesterday called on the U.S. to develop an effective defence against conventional ground-to-ground missiles which it could then share with Israel.
"Israel's enemies are now being armed by the Soviet Union with a new generation of highly lethal surface-to-surface missiles, more accurate and more deadly than any previously available weapons," said Thomas Dine, executive director of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (Aipac).
Dine was testifying in open-door session before the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Strategic and Theatre Nuclear Forces.

Decide now, Peres urges King Hussein

By ROBERT ROSENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter
Prime Minister Peres remains convinced after his 12-day trip to Western Europe and several rounds of talks with intermediaries sent to King Hussein that the Jordanian King wants peace. But, Peres believes "time is running out," and last night he called on Hussein — and the Palestinians — for "a decision, now."
In a speech to the closing session of the World Jewish Congress, the prime minister — who returned early yesterday morning from a three-country tour — refrained from reiterating a statement he had made at Ben-Gurion Airport that there had been "no fundamental change" in the situation.
He expressed strong doubts that talks between Hussein and PLO leader Yasser Arafat, in Amman — which have been called "decisive" by Jordanian sources, — would lead to PLO cooperation with Hussein on direct dialogue with Israel. "In another few days we shall know," said Peres.
"Hussein," said Peres, "made a serious attempt [to come to terms] with the Palestinians...who in 1970 had made an effort to topple him."
The king "took the risk and looked for language acceptable to them. Look what happened. Frustration, disappointment and a waste of time."
Calling on the Palestinians to "take their destiny into their own hands," Peres said that terrorism "has destroyed the chances to arrive at a reasonable degree of self-expression, of life with honour."
Terrorism, said Peres, "is painful for Israel, but catastrophic for the Arab people."
By giving up terrorism, said the premier, the Palestinians "may achieve an important part of what they are looking for."
Peres also obliquely referred to Likud critics who have taken him to task for emphasizing diplomatic efforts.
"The pursuit of peace is not shameful," declared Peres. "We are not professional peaceniks. We seek peace from a position of strength," he said.
"I won't listen to criticism" of the peace efforts, said Peres, who had several late-night talks abroad with (Continued on Back Page)

Jordan-PLO talks yield little

AMMAN (Reuters). — Four days of intensive talks here between King Hussein and PLO leader Yasser Arafat on reviving Middle East peace moves have so far been inconclusive, Palestinian and diplomatic sources said yesterday.
There has been no official word from Jordan or the PLO on the talks.
"The talks have so far been inconclusive, but this doesn't mean they have broken down," a Palestinian source said. "The two sides will continue their efforts in days to come," he added.
"The talks have yielded very little," said a western diplomat who has been closely watching the discussions.
In Washington, a State Department spokesman said a Jordanian report that the U.S. had proposed a plan that would allow the PLO a seat in the peace talks was "fanciful and speculative."
According to the English-language daily Jordan Times, the U.S. offered a seat to the PLO if it allowed non-PLO Palestinians to attend preparatory talks for an international Middle East peace conference.
He said without elaborating that the report was "a blend of fact and fiction — mostly fiction," and that its thrust was inaccurate.
The spokesman said the U.S. position on the PLO was unchanged. Washington has said the PLO must recognize Israel's right to exist and accept key UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 before the U.S. will deal with the organization.

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CHICAGO	-19	14	21	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	-1	30	8	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	-2	28	2	Cloudy
GENEVA	-2	28	1	Cloudy
HELSINKI	-3	27	-1	Cloudy
HONGKONG	18	21	22	Cloudy
JOHANNESBURG	15	29	22	Cloudy
LONDON	8	14	17	Rain
LONDON	4	29	6	Cloudy
MADRID	8	33	7	Cloudy
MONTREAL	-23	-9	-11	Cloudy
NEW YORK	-10	14	-23	Cloudy
OSLO	4	37	6	Cloudy
PARIS	3	37	6	Cloudy
RHODE ISLAND	21	27	29	Cloudy
SANTO DOMINGO	18	24	28	Cloudy
STOCKHOLM	-2	28	0	Cloudy
TOKYO	13	24	7	Snow
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THE WEATHER

	Yesterday's Humidity	Min-Max	Today's
Jerusalem	44	5-13	15
Golan	52	5-13	14
Nahariya	-	10-16	19
Salaf	-	4-11	13
Haifa Port	63	11-17	19
Tiberias	63	6-17	19
Nazareth	71	9-14	16
Afula	67	3-18	19
Shomron	42	4-16	16
Tel Aviv	63	10-19	20
B-G Airport	69	6-18	19
Jericho	43	7-22	22
Gaza	66	10-18	19
Beersheba	47	4-18	19
Eilat	25	9-22	23

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Prof. David Barzilai, of the Technion's Faculty of Medicine will be the guest speaker at the Haifa Engineers Club luncheon meeting at 1 p.m. today. Table reservations by phone: (04) 538268.

President Chaim Herzog and his wife Aura held a dinner at Beit Hanassi in honour of former U.S. vice president Walter Mondale. Among the guests were Judge and Mrs. William Clark, Pan American Airlines Chairman and Mrs. C.E. Acker, U.S. Ambassador to the UN, Vernon Walters and Minister of Transport and Mrs. Haim Corfu.

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HOME NEWS

Peres boosted Israel's image in Germany

BONN. — Was Prime Minister Shimon Peres's visit to Germany a success? Peres and his German host evidently think so. It seems that Peres has succeeded in planting a few seeds of cooperation in the German political landscape, but it will be a long time before they bear fruit, if they do.

Peres achieved a personal success. The Federal Republic's media gave the visit extensive and considerably sympathetic coverage. The tragic history of Peres's family during the Holocaust was emphasized, German politicians, both Conservatives and Social Democrats, stressed that Germany still recognizes its special responsibility to Israel.

Peres had the political skill to make it easier for Germans to accept his insistence that his history is a burden that they must bear. He did so by stressing several times that a new and freer and more tolerant Germany is emerging. The prime minister felt strong enough to declare clearly that the Jewish people cannot forgive the crimes committed by the Nazis.

His quiet manner enabled Chancellor Helmut Kohl to improve his rather mired record on sensitivity towards the Jews and Israel. During his visit to Israel two years ago, Kohl acquired the reputation of trying to reject the German past and ignoring Israel's basic interests.

Peres took special care to thank

ANALYSIS
Wladimir Struminski

Kohl repeatedly for his friendly and helpful attitude — for help in safeguarding Israel's agricultural interests in Europe, for establishing a joint research foundation, and for the warm reception he had received.

It should be remembered that the need for cooperation with Israel is not self-evident here. It is, therefore, noteworthy that Economics Minister Martin Bangemann said it was in Germany's interest to work together with Israel in the field of technology.

Correcting Israel's image as always being at the receiving end of assistance can help create public awareness of Israel as an equal partner in a number of fields. The German government is one of the major recipients of Israeli intelligence and information on the Middle East, for example.

The image of Israel as a member of a family of free nations, rather than a brutish troublemaker, could be of much help to Israel's foreign policy. To give one example: the European community's even-handed treatment of Israel and one

PLO has long been a thorn in Israel's side. After his European tour, Peres evidently feels that the balance has shifted in Israel's favour, but this change has to be carefully monitored.

In the economic sphere, sources here said immediately after Peres's visit that Israeli industrialists should get together with their German counterparts and talk business, rather than wait for official moves, because the Bonn government does not take an active role in economic

life.

Peres designed a grand vision during his visit to Germany of cooperation between a united Europe and a peaceful Middle East. Until now, there have been few prospects for either Europe or peace in the Middle East. Peres's vision has to be translated into practicable policies. Germany may be a helpful partner. At best, Peres's trip will be a pointer in the right direction, but a breakthrough depends on hard work.

'Mubarak wants European peace role'

BONN (AP). — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak is using his current European tour to urge the Europeans to launch their own Middle East peace initiative, Mubarak's political adviser said yesterday.

Mubarak, who arrived yesterday in Bonn, will appeal to the government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl to help rally other Europeans for a peace mission to the Middle East, the adviser, Osama al-Baz, said.

Mubarak proposes that a representative group of the European Community states travels to the Middle East to help arrange an international peace conference.

The conference should include Jordan, the Palestine Liberation Organization, Israel, Egypt, the U.S. and the Soviet Union, al-Baz said.

"It's of course possible other countries could be involved, such as France, Britain or China. All members of the U.N. Security Council," he added.

The Europeans should play a role in the Middle East similar to that of the U.S., al-Baz said, because of its proximity to the region. Europe may understand Middle Eastern problems better than the U.S., he said.

Wladimir Struminski adds from Bonn:

German sources confirmed that they expect Mubarak to raise this request for European mediation during his talks with Chancellor Kohl and Foreign Minister Genscher. The West German leaders will brief Mubarak on the recent visit here of Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Accusations of corruption on the part of senior officers

Wave of resignations hits Tel Aviv police district

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

TEL AVIV. — The Tel Aviv police district has been hit by a wave of suspensions and resignations stemming from accusations of corruption on the part of senior and lower ranking officers. Police officials, who yesterday expressed concern for the state of affairs in the district, quipped that the district police are so busy conducting internal probes that they have no time to tackle outside investigations.

In the past year alone, three senior officers and several lower-ranking policemen have been suspended, and some are facing charges of corruption, bribery, sexual misconduct and drug use.

The catalogue of offences by senior officers has raised tension and

lowered morale inside the force, with some new, hitherto unrevealed cases forcing national headquarters to bring charges against officers.

The Yarkon sub-district investigations chief was recently suspended on suspicion of taking bribes from a Carmel Market greengrocer. The police are considering bringing criminal charges against him.

The head of the patrol department was suspended on suspicion of receiving sexual favours from a policeman who acted as a prostitute in his spare time.

Rav Pakad Ze'ev Salangreh, the head of the traffic bureau was forced to resign after allegedly trying to cancel a summons filed against his son, eliminating evidence and disrupting judiciary procedures.

Charges were filed against him last week in the Tel Aviv Magistrates Court.

The Bat Yam deputy police commander, Rav Pakad Eli Lush, was suspended about a year ago and is now facing charges of taking bribes.

The commander of one of the district's three sub-districts was forced to resign when accusations of sexual harassment were made against him. His file was closed when he resigned a few weeks ago.

A detective of the narcotics squad was suspended after being accused of using drugs. She claimed that a detective colleague informed on her because she wouldn't respond to his sexual overtures.

A member of the police unit that accompanies prisoners and de-

tainees to court, was fired after being caught taking a bribe from a detainee.

The Tel Aviv district central unit has also undergone a serious upheaval during the past year. Its commander was charged with leaking information to the press and removed from his post. His successor was charged at the tribunal with various offences and was finally convicted on two of six charges — associating with a criminal and improper questioning of a subordinate investigating him — and moved to the Lachish sub-district.

A central unit investigating officer was charged and convicted of stealing during a murder investigation. He was sentenced to five years in prison.

'Murder plan' alleged in driving case

By BARBARA AMOYAL

One of the suspects arrested in the Jerusalem Licence Registration Bureau bribery scandal allegedly instructed his family to "waste" the man they thought would serve as state's witness. According to Inspector Amir Solomon, head of the special investigation team on the case, police have taped conversations incriminating Falah Abu Sirhan of Bethlehem and his family in the plan to kill the state's witness, whose name cannot be published at this stage.

Solomon revealed these and other developments in the licence registry scandal yesterday in Jerusalem Magistrate's Court, where all 10 suspects arrested on January 14 were brought for an extension of their remands.

The 10 suspects include two examiners, seven teachers and a licence registry guard. All suspects

are expected to be charged with giving and receiving bribes, and four of the 10 are expected to be charged with destroying evidence and with falsifying test forms and other official documents.

Police asked Jerusalem Magistrate's Court Judge Aharon Simha to grant them another 15 day remand. According to Solomon, the maximum remand period was necessary because of the tremendous amount of material involved.

Simha delayed his decision on this until Sunday.

Woman beaten up at Kahane meeting

BEIT SHE'AN (Jm). — A woman who shouted "You're worse than Hitler" at MK Meir Kahane was beaten up by his yellow-shirted followers at a public meeting here last night.

Dramatic win but one point short

TEL AVIV. — Maccabi Tel Aviv's basketball squad gained an amazing 105-102 Champions' Cup victory over European Cup holders Cibona Zagreb last night at Yad Eliyahu, after being outclassed throughout the first half, at the end of which the Yugoslavs had a nine-point lead.

The game was astonishing for the number of three-point baskets scored by players from both sides, particularly the Yugoslavs: during the first half, all of them seemed to be scoring from these long throws almost at will. It was not only their star, Drazen Petrovic, who excelled in these three-pointers (although he ended the game with seven of them in his 41 points, everyone was in the act).

After the half, Maccabi played like a team transformed.

With three minutes to go, Maccabi scored its fifth three-pointer, to make the score 77-66. Mickey Berkowitz scored off his first free throw, but missed his second. "It's Maccabi scored, and got a foul into the bargain," which he turned into a third point — for the first time Maccabi led, 108-97. Johnson added another point, but Petrovic made it 101-99 to Maccabi. It was then that young Chen Lipman drove the final ball into Cibona's coffin — a three-point throw, just inside the area, made it 103-99 with 50 seconds to go. Maccabi added 2 and Petrovic's 3, and the final whistle blew.

For Maccabi, Mages scored 38 points, Johnson 31, Berkowitz 20 and Janichev 16. Despite the victory, it was hollow for Maccabi since they had lost by 4 points in Yugoslavia and the margin of only 3 in their favour last night will make still slimmer their remote chance of getting into the final.

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FIFTEEN HELD

(Continued from Page One)

killing was an underworld act and not politically motivated," said Jerusalem Branch Inspector Rafi Levy.

Three East Jerusalem residents were arrested within an hour of the shooting. A fourth suspect, aged 22, was arrested at his home in the nearby Silwan neighbourhood.

By last night there were 15 suspects — all Arab — under arrest.

The blue Volkswagen, littered with shell casings, was found abandoned in an alley in Wadi Kadu, some two kilometres from the fourth suspect's home. Police also found a pile of clothing the suspect was burning at the time of his arrest. The

weapon has not been located. Police believe the fourth suspect, whose criminal record includes drug-dealing and involvement in several Jerusalem robberies, is one of the two who shot Bayazi.

Bayazi joined the police in 1980. He worked for several years as a Jerusalem branch detective. Colleagues described him as "a rising star."

"He was an outstanding, professional and ambitious officer," said his commander, Haim Albalades. Bayazi is survived by his wife Ruth, who is also a police officer, and an 18-month-old daughter. Bayazi is to be buried at 10 a.m. today on Mt. Herzl.

Kissinger may run for N.Y. governor

ALBANY, New York (AP). — Former secretary of state Henry Kissinger said yesterday he is considering running for governor of New York this year against incumbent Democrat Mario Cuomo.

"Republican leaders have urged me to run for governor," said Kissinger in a statement issued by his New York City office. "I had not previously considered standing for elective office, but I am complimented by their request and I feel I owe them a consideration of their views."

In very deep sorrow, we announce the death of my dear husband, our father, grandfather

MOSHE DORFMAN
son of Yisrael ז"ל
one of the founders of Ganai Yehuda

The funeral will take place today, Friday, January 31, 1986 (Shvat 21, 5746) at 11.00 a.m. at Holon Cemetery.
A bus will be available for those attending, leaving at 10.15 a.m. from the home of the deceased, 9 Rehov Havradim, Ganai Yehuda.

The Bereaved Family

MEMORIAL SERVICE
On the first anniversary of the death of

RACHEL SCHWARTZ ז"ל

there will be a memorial service at the Bnai David Centre, 66 Rehov Emek Yitz'el, corner Ha'aliya, Tel Aviv, at 7.00 p.m. on February 2, 1986. A graveside service will take place on February 3 at 4.30 p.m. at the Holon Cemetery. We shall meet at the new gate.
Transportation from the house of the deceased, 20 Rehov Dizengoff, Tel Aviv, at 4.00 p.m.
Those who cherish her memory are invited to attend.

On the thirtieth day after the passing of our beloved wife, mother and grandmother

ALICE MAX ז"ל

we shall unveil the tombstone and hold a memorial service in Rehovot Cemetery, on Sunday, February 2, at 3 p.m.

The Family

Our beloved

ESTER SASS
has passed away.
She bequeathed her body to science.

The Family



Vernon Walters, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, is greeted at the Defence Ministry in Tel Aviv by Yitzhak Rabin. (Andre Brutmann)

Walters urges 'constructive ambiguity' to fight terror

IN PERSON

By BENNY MORRIS

Post Diplomatic Correspondent
Vernon Walters, the U.S. ambassador to the UN, said yesterday he believes in a "doctrine of constructive ambiguity," a tactic that is being effectively put to use to intimidate Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi.

"It's working, judging from some of [Gaddafi's] latest statements," said Walters, here to address the World Jewish Congress. Gaddafi is clearly "worried, and wise to be worried."

Walters, a former lieutenant-general, did not say whether he would personally prefer the Sixth Fleet to be more forceful.

"I am opposed to assassination," he said, referring to suggestions by some U.S. Congressmen and anti-terrorist experts that the best way to deal with Abul Abbas, Abu Nidal and their ilk is to wage a covert campaign of assassination. He says it is "against the law of God" and human law, and would create martyrs, which could be counterproductive in the long run.

Walters, however, wasn't critical of the Mossad's campaign of assassination against Black September in the early 1970s. Israel is in a state of "permanent war" and can pursue a policy that might not be acceptable to the U.S.

Walters, 68, a large, bespectacled man, doesn't fit the average man's conception of an American general. He is witty and quirky. He believes the saying that an intelligent general is a contradiction in terms.

Walters says he found the switch from army life to diplomacy smooth. He served in the U.S. Army from 1941 to 1976, ending his career, in his own words, as a "raw-aluf" and deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency. He served in Italy in World War II, in Greece during its civil war and flew 169 helicopter missions in Vietnam.

Since 1981 he has served as President Reagan's chief international troubleshooter. He is fluent in German, Dutch, Russian, Spanish, Portuguese, French and Italian. "It drives me crazy to hear a language I can't understand," he said of Hebrew, adding that he is considering going to an ulpan.

Turning to current problems at the UN, where a resolution on Israeli behaviour on the Temple Mount is before the Security Council, Walters said the U.S. "deplored" the recent incident and supported religious freedom in Jerusalem for all faiths. But the U.S. "won't go along with

[a] unilateral [Security Council] condemnation of Israel," he says, strongly implying that if such a resolution were tabled, it would be blocked by an American veto. There is "no justification" for condemning the Israeli government for the Temple Mount incidents, he added.

Jeanne Kirkpatrick, Walters's predecessor at the UN post, was deeply involved in the issue of Soviet Jewry. Walters appears equally committed. He said he did not know whether there was much to the recent spate of rumours concerning a Soviet plan to permit large-scale Jewish emigration. Only a Russian can answer that question, he said. "What is this obsession with keeping people in?" he asked.

The U.S., he added with heavy irony, is "a terrible place," but everyone wants to get in.

Walters seems to believe that quiet diplomacy rather than loud demonstrations and actions will get the Soviets to open the gates, if anything can. The Russians are "a great and proud" people and will not be persuaded to change policy through public pressure, he says.

Walters, who is on his "seventh or eighth or ninth" visit to Israel, is clearly impressed with what he has heard and seen. "I have never met an incompetent Israeli," he said, without a trace of a smile. He had just come from meetings with Defence Minister Rabin, Prime Minister Peres and Foreign Minister Shamir.

Walters's speech last night to the WJC was marked by frequent references to milestones in Jewish and Israeli history, including Masada, 1948 and the Holocaust. Some of the Jewish and Israeli passages were reportedly inserted by Walters into the original draft.

In his address, Walters spoke of "the new flame that flickered on the rough hills of Judea" thousands of years ago, of the Jewish people "persecuted and dispersed over the face of planet" and of the currently "strong and steady" flame flickering in "Eretz Yisrael."

The thrust of Walters's speech was directed against international terrorism and UN resolutions condemning Israel following Israeli actions against terrorists. He asserted that Israel and the U.S. were the "principal targets" of terrorists and their supporters because both states support justice and freedom.

But, Walters concluded, "The days of Masada, the days of the Holocaust are over. The day of the terrorist will be over."

He was accompanied in Israel by Allan Gerson, the U.S. deputy assistant-attorney-general, who was formerly special counsel to Jeanne Kirkpatrick.

On the thirtieth day after the passing of our dear

GERSHON DROR ז"ל

there will be a memorial meeting on Monday, February 3, 1986, at 4 p.m. in the Physics Building, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot.

A bus will be available for those attending, leaving the Mann Auditorium plaza, Tel Aviv, at 3 p.m.

We thank all who offered condolences in person and by letter.

The Family

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Yemenite Community Centre

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DAVID GOLD ז"ל
of Hewlett, New York, and Lake Worth, Florida

We extend our condolences to his wife

HENRIETTA GOLD
and his children.

Adrian and Harvey Gossett and Family
The Shalom Gold Family

On the first anniversary of the death of our beloved son and brother

YARON GOTSMAN ז"ל

a memorial service will be held on Tuesday, February 4, 1986, at 4 p.m., at Kiryat Shaul Military Cemetery.

The Family

Jerusalem and Eretz Yisrael were what the WJC Assembly was all about

The glue that binds the Jewish people

By MOSHE KOHN

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Why isn't Jerusalem on the agenda? Where is the spirit of Eretz Yisrael?

The World Zionist Organization executive member was indignant about those two lacunae in the agenda of the World Jewish Congress 50th anniversary assembly. "How can they hold a meeting like this in Jerusalem with the world 'Israel' hardly in the programme?"

In a technical sense, the man was right. But only in a technical sense. In fact, Jerusalem and the spirit of Eretz Yisrael are what the assembly is all about; these, and the global totality of the Jewish people and the fundamental oneness of the Jewish people. If not always in the formal proceedings, then certainly in the hubbub in the lobbies and refreshment places of the Hilton Hotel, where the meeting is taking place.

"When I stood in the Jerusalem Theatre (Monday night, at the ceremonial opening of the assembly) singing the *Hatikva* with all those people from all over the world, I felt myself a proud part of one big people," said Linda Grosz of Vienna, attending as a representative of the Austrian section of the World Union of Jewish Students.

"With so many different kinds of Jews from all over the world, I see that the Jewish people really exists in the flesh, and not just as something I hear or read about," Grosz said. "I have a somewhat similar feeling in the synagogue on Yom Kippur, with the thought that all over the world

Jews are doing what I am doing: fasting and praying. But that's not the same thing. In temple there's a kind of feeling of isolation."

AND OF COURSE at a Jewish gathering, especially in Jerusalem, "Jewish geography" was among the pastimes.

"How come a representative of the German Democratic Republic speaks such a fluent American English?"

The question was addressed to a slightly built, attractive woman whose badge identified her as Irene Runge. In a formal talk at one of the sessions, her accent had been quite neutral, but in an informal conversation, later on, the American shade was quickly discerned.

She was born and spent the first seven years of her life in the Washington Heights neighbourhood of Manhattan, she explained.

Runge, the mother of a 25-year-old son and grandmother of a two-year-old girl, was born to parents who had fled to New York from Paris after the war broke out in 1939. Some years earlier they had fled to France from their native Mannheim, Germany.

"My father was political, so he left Germany relatively soon after Hitler came to power," she said. Her father, George F. Kupferman, wrote books under the name George Alexan, and in New York he was secretary of the German Writers in Exile group. In Germany he had exhibited and sold the paintings of artists whom the Nazis had declared "de-

generate." In 1949, when McCarthyism was taking hold, the family went back to Germany - to East Berlin.

Runge is now a professor of sociology at East Berlin's Humboldt University. But she also does a great deal of writing on Jewish topics. Her husband, not Jewish, is director of the East Berlin comic-opera theatre.

"My father refuses to have anything to do with anything Jewish. But I was always with Jewish kids of other families that came back - Jewish left-wing intellectuals, many of whom were more left-wing than intellectual. Among ourselves we always talked about Jewish things."

This is her first visit to Israel. "I've seen many TV films about Israel, so everything here seemed so familiar," she said.

At this gathering she came to realize that "there is a certain thread of understanding" linking all Jews from everywhere. "You just drop a word, and they understand you. That's because of the common past."

"THE IMPORTANCE of such meetings is that Jews from all over the world meet each other - often for the first time - and exchange experiences and views. This helps us all to learn what it is all about, and bolsters our consciousness of being part of something big and important. What we pick up from each other in our informal conversations usually has an importance beyond the resolutions that are passed. This is the glue that binds global Jewry into one people."

The above is a composite of the views expressed at a luncheon table that included Emma Adler, president of Mexican Wizo; Adelina Della Pergola, president of Italian Wizo; Prof. Leon Zelman and Paul Grosz of Vienna; and Rabbi and Mrs. Benjamin Teller of the U.S., with a journalist eavesdropping and egging them on.

THE ALTERNATE delegate from Barbados was Tourism Minister Aaron Truss, reputedly an observant Jew, whose father is of Polish origin and whose mother is a Chinese proselyte to Judaism. Truss looks rather Chinese. As people were gathering at a little cocktail reception he gave, he turned to a neighbour and said: "Are all these people Jewish? They don't look it!"

"PERHAPS THERE ARE more efficient ways of getting things done than conferences like these," conceded Leslie Caplan, newly elected president of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, when baited by a journalist. "But I want to tell you two things. First of all, it's very important, especially for someone like me, to have this opportunity to meet Jews from all over the world engaged in the Jewish cause as I am. We learn from each other. Secondly, I have to come to Israel once a year or so to refresh myself Jewishly anyway. What I get out of it - especially in the framework of a gathering like this - is a further injection of the confidence I need in order to stand up to my task properly back home."

Minister at odds with party over coming convention and deal with Liberals

Sharon gets Herut cold-shoulder

By SARAR HONIG

Post Political Correspondent

TEL AVIV. - Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon is fast becoming Herut's leading maverick. He is feeling left out and ignored. It is almost as if the party's other leaders were taking the advice of Benny Begin, the former prime minister's son.

In his TV appearance 10 days ago, the younger Begin belittled Sharon and angered his supporters by arguing that there really is no Sharon camp. Now Sharon is complaining that the other factions in the party are making deals as if there were no Sharon faction.

This applies both to internal Herut politics and to the deal with the Liberal Party. In both cases, Sharon has very clear interests. In both cases, he has not been consulted, and his objections have been overlooked.

Yitzhak Shamir and David Levy are seeking to make behind-the-scenes arrangements that would defuse the potentially explosive Herut convention. Tension would suit Sharon just fine, building him up as a pivotal third force without whom no side could prevail in Herut. A Shamir-Levy cease-fire would prevent that from happening. Moreover, Shamir and Levy do not even pretend to make him part of the new internal peace deal.

Thus the two agreed to make March 9 the new convention date without hearing him out. They also

agreed to appoint MK Dan Meridor to head a special committee that would co-opt various public figures as convention delegates. Sharon has made his opposition to Meridor a matter of record, but to no avail.

But that is perhaps the least of Sharon's troubles. It now appears that the merger between Herut and the Liberals may take place after all. Sharon is known to be unhappy about the deal, and with good reason. There is little likelihood of his finding many allies and supporters within the Liberal contingent, which, after the merger, can be expected to take an energetic part in the power struggle for the Likud leadership. That struggle has, thus far, been Herut's own private affair.

This is why Sharon so strenuously opposed the idea that Liberals have, say, in ranking Herut members on the joint Knesset slate. The very idea that Liberals would now be voting for Herut candidates and vice versa is a major threat to Sharon - more than to any other would-be Likud leader.

At the last Herut meeting on the matter, Sharon in fact urged that the Liberals not be given the right to vote for Herut members as long as their own separate reserved quota is in force. No one in the party leadership paid any attention to Sharon's objection.

Sharon's final hope was that the Liberals would not accept the Herut offer of a 33 per cent slice of the united Likud pie. This would have

saved him. The Liberals had been vociferously insisting on 36 per cent for two Knesset terms. Herut agreed to less, and for only one Knesset term. The Liberals, moreover, were making very tough noises about not giving an inch. This went on until the early hours of yesterday morning, when, contrary to expectations, they voted to accept the Herut offer.

Many in Herut had predicted that the Liberals would do just that, and that their final tough stance was just so much bravado before the surrender.

Still, there was no reason for the Liberals not to accept the Herut offer. The Liberals would have been foolish to spurn the sweet deal Herut offered because of three insignificant percentage points. They basically got what they wanted.

The Liberals also showed their political pragmatism by accepting Herut's insistence that the agreement be in force for fewer years than they had originally demanded. They knew that elections may be imminent. It was better to get a political roof over their heads now than to hold out for more and find themselves begging at Herut's door with a campaign already under way. Once the election date began, the Liberals would have been at a disadvantage, as their contribution in votes to the Likud is judged to be minimal. This is the true cause of the Liberals' sudden move.

If Herut does not stall again (and chances are that it won't because it



Ariel Sharon (Rahamin Yisrael)

fears the Liberals might sabotage the upcoming rotation for the premiership), the merger will be effected soon. It is unlikely that the Likud components will really be fused into one political entity, but a new element will certainly be injected into the Herut power struggle.

This is what worries Sharon. This is why he feels cornered. Herut insiders told *The Jerusalem Post* that there is no telling what he might do. The party leadership has managed to keep him comparatively quiet in the past few months, since his confrontation with Prime Minister Peres, which came very near to bringing down the government. If he becomes politically desperate, he may become uncontrollable again, some in Herut warn. He may not be out to foil rotation deliberately, but unpredictable outbursts are likely from someone who no longer feels himself bound by party discipline.

Nobel Prize cardiologist gives his anti-bomb work the first priority

By JUDY SIEGEL

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Almost every day, Dr. Bernard Lown saves lives by the most modern cardiologist techniques, some of which he introduced himself. But that work seems almost insignificant to him compared to his sideline - organizing opposition to nuclear weapons.

The American cardiologist and his Soviet colleague Dr. Yevgeny Chuzov five years ago founded International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War. Last month they were awarded the 1985 Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo.

TV viewers may remember the pair from the filmed press conference in which Lev Norikov, a reporter for Soviet TV and radio in Scandinavia, collapsed with a heart attack and was revived after 35 minutes by the Nobel Prize team of cardiologists. Norikov, says Lown, who is visiting Jerusalem for the World Jewish congress plenum, is now alive and on his feet.

Lown was attacked by some of the audience in Jerusalem for supposed-

unexpected," he said. "Nuclear weapons and systems aimed at providing a shield against those of the enemy can't be foolproof."

Thus Lown strongly opposes President Reagan's "Star Wars" Strategic Defense Initiative, which would try to set up a protective umbrella over the U.S. from space.

Lown and Chuzov and their organization's 150,000 members (60,000 in Russia, 30,000 in the U.S. and the rest in other countries) call for an end to nuclear tests.

"That would achieve something, because if the weapons couldn't be tested, new weapons couldn't be developed, and the old ones won't be trusted," Lown said. The U.S. can detect a nuclear test in the USSR or anywhere else in the world, he added.

Lown, who met Mikhail Gorbachev on December 18, said the Soviet leader is willing to come to some arrangement with the U.S. if "reciprocity" is involved.

Despite his access to Soviet leaders, Lown concedes that he had not been very active in the public struggle to help Soviet Jews emigrate to Israel. "You have to decide what your main priority is. Jews, too, will die in a nuclear holocaust. And it could happen any time," he said.

The doctor said Israelis are "short-sighted" because they don't worry so much about nuclear arms, although he conceded that it is natural enough to be preoccupied with the immediate dangers of conventional war and terrorism. But he added, "It is inevitable that the Arabs will obtain nuclear weapons. The ultimate arbiter of Israel's existence will be nuclear warfare."

Lown, who invented the defibrillator to revive heart-attack victims, says he first became aware of the nuclear threat in 1960, when he attended a lecture on the subject by that year's Nobel Prize-winner for medicine, Noel Baker.

Using the \$225,000 that Lown and Chuzov received for their prize, the physicians' organization tries to mobilize support in the medical field.

"We are an organization that aims to disappear, and it will do so when nuclear war is no longer a threat to mankind," said the cardiologist.



Bernard Lown

ly "playing into the hands of the Russians." This charge has been made before, and the doctor vigorously rejects it.

"These are 19th century ideas," he told *The Jerusalem Post* in an interview this week.

Lown, who was born in Lithuania and has visited the Soviet Union 22 times, said he believed that "the Russians want peace desperately. First I thought it was propaganda, but after so many people insist they do, even after they get drunk, you have to believe them."

The Russians want peace, he added, because they are aware of the dangers of the nuclear-arms race, to which the American public is now waking up.

The disaster of the Challenger spacecraft this week only shows how one cannot count on technology, no matter how sophisticated, said Lown. "You have to expect the

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Protest at 'high unemployment and the shape of the budget'

Histadrut calls warning strike for Tuesday

By ROY ISACOWITZ

Post Labour Reporter

TEL AVIV. - The Histadrut has called a two-hour warning strike throughout the country next Tuesday. The warning is directed at the government and the reasons given for the proposed strike are persistently high unemployment and the shape of the state budget for the coming fiscal year.

If Tuesday's warning proves ineffective, a similar strike, of four hours, will be held the following Tuesday, Histadrut officials say. The week after that it will be six hours - and so on, until the economy shuts down.

According to that timetable, the end of February could see a general strike, the second reading of the budget in the Knesset and the opening of wage negotiations between the Histadrut and public and private employers.

Presumably, the Treasury will be able to avoid a general strike in late February by agreeing to negotiate with the Histadrut and its allies in the Labour Party. These negotiations could take two or three months, with the budget and wage agreements depending on the outcome.

The day of reckoning is April 1, by which date, in theory at least, both the budget and the new wage agreements are due to take effect. If the opening positions of the sides to the economic disputes are any indication, April will be one of the cruellest months in a long time.

The draft budget prepared by the Treasury and currently under the microscope in the Knesset Finance Committee seeks to consolidate the achievements of the economic recovery programme. It is a tough budget, based on low wages, reduced state spending and increased public participation in the financing of social services.

The Histadrut is having none of that. It has attacked the budget on just about every conceivable front: its failure to allocate resources for economic growth, its failure to tackle the unemployment problem, and its failure to alleviate the economic

burden on low-wage earners. The Histadrut's stand is supported in the Knesset by the "socially conscious" members of the Labour caucus.

Holding the middle ground are the private sector employers, represented by the Coordinating Bureau of Economic Organizations. They support the Treasury's assault on wages, but are opposed to price restraint and high interest rates. Like the Histadrut, the private employers are concerned about the rising number of bankruptcies.

The budget and the wage agreements are interdependent. The authority decreed by the former will come to naught if the latter is breached - that, at least, is how the Treasury sees things. The Histadrut is not directly involved in the making of the budget, but it has already put the government on notice that it regards the wage agreements as the means of recouping what may be lost in the budget.

Tuesday's strike, therefore, is not only a protest against the government's socio-economic policy; it is also a demonstration of muscle in anticipation of the wage negotiations. Over the past few weeks, all three sides to the negotiations - the government, the Histadrut and the private employers - have made their opening positions known. On Tuesday, the Histadrut will reinforce its position with a limited show of strength.

The Treasury maintains that it is not planning on further wage erosion - though it does not intend making good the erosion of the past year either. At the same time, carefully placed Treasury leaks have made it known that the state will demand changes in the cost of living increment system - such as lower percentages over longer time spans - as well as in the various other forms of linkage.

The Histadrut has privately accepted that the starting point in the negotiations will be current wage levels and not pre-erosion levels of one, two or three years ago. What organized labour will not accept, Histadrut officials say, is a further

cut in gross wages.

In addition, the Histadrut has raised two intriguing demands: negotiating freedom for the individual trade unions and a one-year time limit on the wage agreements, as opposed to the accepted two-year lifespan.

The former is not difficult to understand. For some time now, the labour federation has been plagued by union secessionism. The only way it can continue to keep all of its rebellious members under the same roof is to allow them increased autonomy. The threat of setting the unions loose, each to negotiate its own wage contract, is also a club to hold over the heads of recalcitrant employers.

It is the second demand - that the period of the agreements be limited to one year - that has many people baffled. Histadrut officials have explained it by saying that economic conditions are too fluid for them to make a commitment for more than one year. But that argument is unconvincing. Conditions were no less fluid in 1984, under the crippled stewardship of former finance minister Yigal Cohen-Orag, though that did not prevent the Histadrut from signing a two-year agreement.

The one-year stipulation sounds decidedly political to suspicious minds. By the end of this year, the premiership will either be in the hands of the Likud or elections will have been held. The country's current political life is a day-to-day affair, with only fools or prophets willing to predict the situation six months from now. So why should the Histadrut commit itself to two years?

The following scenario was painted by a Likud MK: The Histadrut manages to keep the workers more or less in check until October, when Peres and Shamir swap roles. Rotation will leave all the major economic portfolios in Likud hands without a Labour prime minister to moderate their zeal.

In February 1987, wage negotiations will begin again, at which point all hell will break loose. Claiming massive wage erosion and social dis-

crimination, the Histadrut will bring the workers out into the streets and strikes will cripple the economy. With the country in an uproar, Labour will either vote against the draft budget or support an opposition vote of no-confidence in the government.

Shamir's government will fall after only five months in office. The president will turn to Peres who will manage to cobble together an unlikely government of left-wingers and religious parties. With Peres once more in the driver's seat - and the Histadrut having dragged the workers back into the factories - new elections will be held.

Clearly, there are holes in that scenario. But it is clear that Labour is growing nervous over rotation and that many Labour tacticians are beginning to take an interest in the political possibilities of the economy. In the words of one of the party's most vocal critics of the budget, Labour's opposition is "50 per cent economic and 50 per cent political."

It is generally accepted in Labour that, if rotation is to be avoided, the government will have to be brought down by April. Appearances demand that the collapse be engineered to allow a decent interval before the scheduled rotation date in October.

April, of course, is also the month in which the budget and the new wage agreements take effect. It could well be the month in which economic and political imperatives interact to decide the fate of the government. Whatever happens, the wage-earners are unlikely to benefit.



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Utah rabbi says Mormons can be trusted

By HAIM SHAPIRO

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Dr. David Galbraith, director of the controversial Brigham Young University centre being built on Mt. Scopus, appeared this week before the interministerial committee investigating the project - with a letter from his local rabbi.

The letter, from Rabbi Eric Silver, who described himself as "the leader of Utah's Jewish community," glowingly praised the Mormons and stressed that when a Mormon gave his word, it could be trusted implicitly.

"When (BYU) President (Jeffrey R.) Holland gives his solemn assurance that the BYU centre will not be used for missionary activity, I would stake my life on his promise and I hasten to assure you that you can do likewise. Any Mormon who presumes to act on his own would be subject to the most severe penalties on the part of the Church's authorities who will not tolerate anyone who feels that he can violate the rules," Silver said in the letter addressed to "Our Brothers and Sisters in Israel."

While noting the "Mormon commitment to aggressive missionary activity," Silver said the number of Jews converted to Mormonism in Salt Lake City "is not even statistically countable." He said that "of far greater significance is the number of former Mormons who are now leading lives as observant Jews in accordance with the halacha."

The Salt Lake City rabbi also spoke of "the long-standing friendship and sympathy which Mormons have historically had for Israel's cause," and concluded, "It is my earnest hope that the people of Israel would do nothing to jeopardize a friendship which is freely given without precondition."

In the absence abroad of Interior Minister Yitzhak Peretz, an opponent of the centre, questions tended to concentrate on the nature of BYU's commitment not to engage in missionary activity. Interior Minister Yosef Burg, who heads the committee, is known to favour a quick decision on the matter.

Study of Arabic may become compulsory

Education Minister Yitzhak Navon said Tuesday that the study of Arabic will eventually become mandatory in Israeli schools, but he refused to say how long it will take.

In a meeting with leading experts on Arabic studies, Navon was told that, although many students begin courses in spoken Arabic in elementary school, only 1,200-1,500 pupils are studying Arabic language and literature by their senior year of high school.

There is currently no national supervisor of Arabic studies, and only 20 teachers are enrolled in Arabic workshops this year.

Navon promised to allocate the equivalent of several hundred thousand dollars of next year's budget for curriculum development and additional local supervisors. "It makes no sense that we, who are surrounded by 300 million Arabs, should raise a younger generation that cannot communicate with its neighbours," he said.

The Knesset Education Committee recently recommended that Arabic become mandatory, but senior Education Ministry officials say there are many obstacles to that, chief among them the problem of Arab-Jewish relations.

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'Washington Post' reports: Gaddafi threatening to let fly his missiles

WASHINGTON. — Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi has full control of a few newly installed Soviet-made long-range anti-aircraft missiles and is threatening to use them against U.S. planes, *The Washington Post* said yesterday.

U.S. intelligence officials had debated whether Moscow retained control over the SA-5 missiles in Libya, but new reports indicate Gaddafi has control of them. *The Post* said.

Citing unidentified administration officials, the newspaper said Gaddafi is threatening to use the missiles, which have a range of 240 kilometres, on any U.S. planes that may fly over the disputed Gulf of Sidra.

Soviet advisers had warned the Libyan leader against launching any of the missiles during the current U.S. naval exercises in the Mediterranean. But Gaddafi said he would decide when to fire them. *The Post* said.

Libyans have been trained to operate the SA-5s, but remain very unsure of their abilities and still need help from Soviet advisers, it said.

In Tunis yesterday, Libyan Foreign Minister Ali Abdesslem Treiki said that Libya is ready to talk with the U.S. without any preconditions about easing tensions between the two nations.

The foreign minister was in Tunis for a meeting of the Arab League to discuss possible counter-measures against the U.S. in response to American sanctions and military threats against Libya.

In other developments, the four major U.S. oil companies operating in Libya have suspended their shipments of crude from the Libyan oilfields. But Libya's overall exports continue unabated. Western diplomats and oil executives reported Wednesday.

The sources said the U.S. companies, which together own slightly over one-fifth of Libya's oil output, suspended their shipments both to comply with President Reagan's embargo and to avoid the effects of the recent sharp fall in oil prices.

The sources stressed, however, that Libyan, Italian, German and other companies are continuing shipments of oil — 80 per cent of the Libyan output — and are taking over the U.S. share. (AP, Reuters)

Think tank faults U.S. for military 'airlift gap'

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — If war erupted in Europe or the Middle East, Washington would not have enough planes to rush troops and equipment into battle, a private study released yesterday said.

The Heritage Foundation, a conservative think-tank, said a military crisis in either region would require that about 2,000 planeloads of troops and equipment be flown to the trouble-spot within 10 days — the time limit set by the Defence Department in war plans.

"To support Europe alone, the U.S. would have to transport six (mechanized) army divisions, 60 tactical fighter squadrons, and one marine amphibious brigade to Western Europe," the study by military specialist Kim Holmes said.

The Air Force had acknowledged an "airlift gap," but its plan to correct the situation entailed a serious and costly error that could cost U.S. taxpayers an estimated \$20 billion, the study said.

The error was a decision to build a new transport plane, the C-17,

rather than relying on the cheaper C-5 Galaxy, which is now in production, and on shorter-range transports, according to the report.

It said an air force plan called for using C-17s both for long-range transport from the U.S. to a war zone and for short-hop transport within a battle area — but that this would not be feasible partly due to commanders' unwillingness to risk the new planes unduly in battle areas.

Building a C-17 to accommodate both short and long-range tasks could also be difficult to engineer and hamper the plane's overall effectiveness, the report said.

Meanwhile, Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said yesterday he would press Congress next week to continue the U.S. military buildup in 1987 and he cautioned against "a child-like hope for detente" with the Soviet Union.

President Reagan and Weinberger have indicated they will seek a 3 per cent increase in defence spending in the 1987 budget.

South Africa rescinds ban on bumper stickers and T-shirts

JOHANNESBURG (AP). — The government yesterday withdrew a police order banning bumper stickers, posters and T-shirt slogans in Cape Town in the face of ridicule by opposition groups.

The order Wednesday by Brig. Chris Swart, commander of police in Cape Town, would have banned all visual political expression in six Cape Town districts for two weeks starting yesterday under state-of-emergency powers.

Minister of Law and Order Louis le Grange said after a meeting with Swart yesterday morning that the ban was rescinded.

But he said police would not hesitate to act if any demonstrations or protests threatened public order in the next two weeks during ceremonies for the opening of parliament today.

Frederick van Zyl Slabbert, leader of the opposition Progressive Federal Party, was among numerous critics of the ban.

"Has this government any idea how ridiculous it must be for a South African to have to explain this action to intelligent people elsewhere in the world?" he said.

The liberal English-language *Cape Times* said the ban was "one of the most remarkable edicts in this country's political history" and added, "This extraordinary prohibition is reminiscent of a banana republic."

"Does the public safety really depend on the suppression of T-shirts proclaiming 'Troops out of Townships' or some such slogan? Are political bumper stickers really calculated to threaten the safety of the state in the next two weeks but not thereafter?"

Meanwhile, President P.W. Botha is to open parliament today with a speech in which he is likely to outline how he plans to tackle South Africa's increasingly violent political crisis. (Reuters, AP)

Frogmen to search for fragments of Challenger

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (Reuters). — Military frogmen prepared to probe the Atlantic Ocean bottom yesterday for pieces of the doomed space shuttle Challenger, and officials warned souvenir-hunters that debris washing up on Florida beaches may be coated with harmful acid.

The U.S. Coast Guard, which is coordinating the salvage operation, said it would make sonar soundings of the sea floor to locate the wreckage, then despatch divers to recover it. The average depth in the area was said to be nine to 12 metres.

By yesterday morning, salvage crews had recovered more than 450 kilos of debris from the 100-ton spaceplane which exploded 72 seconds into its ascent on Tuesday. Officials hope it will render clues to the cause of the catastrophe.

Five men and two women astronauts were incinerated in the explosion, which has been likened to a quarter-megaton nuclear blast.

Small pieces of Challenger, including the ceramic tiles of its outer skin, began washing up on beaches near the Kennedy Space Centre on Wednesday, drawing hundreds of souvenir-hunters.

Space programme officials first asked that all debris be turned in, then warned that some of it might be coated with an acid that could cause severe burns.

Debris from the \$1.2 billion shuttle, which burst apart 16 kilometres above earth, rained into the sea for more than an hour on Tuesday. The 15,540-square-kilometre search area extends 80 kilometres out to sea.

"There's an unbelievable amount of debris," said a Coast Guard officer. "Most of it is composed of aluminium structures. Some tiles, some cylindrical-type tanks. It's hard to put into words."

Investigators from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) eagerly awaited a chance to examine a large cone-shaped object believed to be the nose cover from one of Challenger's twin rocket boosters.

Experts hoped the charred piece, by far the largest item recovered in the search zone, would provide valuable clues.

Meanwhile, the nation continued to mourn the astronauts. President Reagan is to attend a memorial service at the Johnson Space centre in Houston today.

Congressman Bill Nelson, who rode the shuttle into space earlier this month, said he would propose legislation to name the seven newly discovered moons of Uranus after the seven dead astronauts.

Nasa has collected all available computer data on the ill-fated flight, and experts have already begun the formidable job of retracing events milliseconds by milliseconds.

The five-year-old shuttle programme, which had 24 successful flights, is in suspension. Nasa has ordered technicians to cease all work on Challenger's sister ships — Atlantis, Discovery and Columbia — until the cause of this week's disaster has been found and corrected.

Nasa officials say privately that it could be months before the shuttle flies again. A lengthy delay would seriously disrupt — if not scrap — the remaining 14 flights planned for 1986.

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A week before the Philippines election, campaign posters in several languages decorate the headquarters of opposition candidate Corason Aquino.

FOREIGN NEWS IN BRIEF

Protests likely to greet pope on his visit to India

VATICAN CITY (Reuters). — Pope John Paul is to leave today on a 10-day trip to India which has aroused protests from Hindu fundamentalists who say the pontiff was to boost conversions to the tiny Christian minority.

The fundamentalists, who claim the pope aims to accelerate conversions of lower caste members of the Hindu majority, have threatened big demonstrations during the visit.

World population grew to 4.9 billion last year

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — The global population grew by 85 million in 1985 to a total of 4.9 billion people, the private Population Institute reported this week.

The institute said that although the yearly rate of world population growth declined from 2 per cent in 1970 to 1.7 per cent in 1985, total numbers continued to increase, with fertility rates remaining high while death rates declined.

The institute said that despite the increase in family planning in Asia and Latin America, world population was expected to reach five billion by mid-1987 and six billion by the end of the century.

Three African leaders back new Ugandan president

NAIROBI. — The leaders of Kenya, Zaire and Rwanda expressed support for the new Ugandan government in a meeting with President Yoweri Museveni after he was sworn in Wednesday, the semi-official Kenya News Agency said yesterday.

Presidents Daniel arap Moi of Kenya, Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire and Juvenal Habyarimana of Rwanda "noted with satisfaction the progress made to restore peace and security in Uganda and pledged to support President Museveni in these efforts," the agency reported.

The agreement between Museveni's National Resistance Army guerrillas and the military government of Gen. Tito Okello was never put into effect, and the army launched a successful military assault on Kampala only a month after it was signed.

Meanwhile, Okello, deposed this week as president of Uganda, has arrived in Sudan and plans to regroup his forces and return home, the official Sudan News Agency reported yesterday. (Reuters, AP)

Nazi doctors charged with murder of disabled

FRANKFURT (AP). — Two elderly doctors went on trial Wednesday for assisting in the mass murder of thousands of handicapped people during Hitler's Third Reich.

Heinrich Bunke, of Celle, and Aquilin Ullrich, of Stuttgart, both 71-years-old, are charged as accessories to the murders committed in the Nazis' "extermination of Unworthy Life" programme in 1940-41.

The doctors turned people over to be gassed and in some cases, supervised their deaths, the prosecutors charged. Bunke is charged in connection with 9,500 deaths, and Ullrich with 5,000.

Computers may pose risk to pregnant women

STOCKHOLM (Reuters). — New Swedish research has shown that radiation from computer screens, until now considered safe for pregnant women, causes severe birth defects and even death among mice, scientists said yesterday.

"This is totally unexpected," said Rickard Edstrom, chief physician at the Swedish Occupational Safety Administration. "There's a big step between animals and humans, especially in terms of body size, but the findings mean we can no longer rule out the possibility that radiation could affect fetuses," he told Reuters.

The researcher exposed pregnant mice to pulsating magnetic fields from computer screens of the type common in offices and found that the fetuses either died or were born with severe defects.

Edstrom said he was stunned when he first saw the results, as previous research had indicated that there were no risks associated with the use of computer screens.

SPORTS

SOCCER PREVIEW

Match of season in Haifa

By YARON KENAN

There's a full complement of eight National League matches tomorrow afternoon, but most fans have eyes and ears for only one. All other seven are Cinderellas as the focus fixes on the plush new Kiryat Eliezer stadium in Haifa where the champions entertain their would-be substitutes.

Computers are reckoned to be infallible beasts but they are not thought to be capable of inspiration. Yet it seems that the computer employed by the Football Association to arrange the year's fixture list must have been inspired to contrive tomorrow's finale to the first round.

Maccabi Haifa v Hapoel Tel Aviv, the champions or the pretenders — who will be seated on top of the perch tomorrow evening? Haifa have home advantage, and, despite the two-point edge Hapoel Tel Aviv have over them, they must be fancied to leapfrog to the top by 5 p.m. tomorrow.

One way or another, this is the closest Israeli football is likely to get this season to the style, class or commitment of the European game. And anyone heading for Kiryat Eliezer is well advised to get there early, and to be prepared to shell out gracefully the NIS15 for a ticket (NIS9 for youngsters).

Both sides, particularly Haifa, have had health problems. But Baruch Maman is due to be back, dominating the midfield for Haifa, while their young goalkeeper, Avi Ran, who was hospitalised for 24 hours after suffering mild concussion and a temporary lapse of memory immediately after Tuesday's international against Scotland, is, we learn, as right as rain once more. Tel Aviv, on the other hand, are likely to miss the services of their lanky striker Eli Yanni.

With both sides keen to shrug off their indifferent performances of recent weeks, this is bound to be a rare humdinger. If the prophets are accurate, it could swing on whether the redoubtable Tel Aviv midfielder — Moshe Sinai, Eli Cohen, Amar and Janno — or the formidable Haifa attack of Zahi Armeli, Ronnie Rosenthal and Moshe Selektor — will triumph. Each group is capable of providing the key.

United through in Cup

LONDON (AP). — Holders Manchester United cruised into the fifth round of the F.A. (Football Association) Soccer Cup by beating Second Division Sunderland 3-0 in a replay.

But, in another replay, Second Division Millwall claimed a Division One scalp by beating Aston Villa 1-0.

Tottenham Hotspur crushed Third Division North County 5-0 in another F.A. Cup fourth round tie, while, in the Mill Cup, Queens Park Rangers scored two extra time goals to beat Chelsea 2-0, and so to reach the semi-final.

Out of luck

TEL AVIV. — Hapoel Tel Aviv's basketball squad, despite their prodigious effort on Wednesday night, when they beat Bosna Sarajevo, are out of the Korac Cup. They were very unlucky. Banco Roma vanquished Challons of France 107-80, and although they only have the same number of points as Hapoel, they had the better in their bilateral encounters. Still, Hapoel certainly retrieved some honour.

Expected to offer the strongest challenge to the favourites among the 50 invitees in the testing men's race are Shlomo Azoual, Doron Ziman, Yehzekel Halifa and Tomer Ron. Mazal Shalom should have no trouble retaining her title in the 3.5-km women's competition.

Israel Athletic Association general-secretary Aviv Stein reported yesterday that a total of 300 runners are expected for the meet, which also includes various events for veterans and youth.

Last year too the match of the season involved the two coaches who are pitted against each other tomorrow — Haifa's Shlomo Sharf and Hapoel's David Schweitzer, although Schweitzer was then handling Betar Jerusalem.

Sharf retains his customary, composed reticence, which is understandable at the moment, given the recent less than impressive functioning of his star-studded machine. All the usually voluble Schweitzer would say about the outcome was, "The only safe bet is that on Sunday morning there'll be more newspapers sold."

Last year around this time, the Haifa-Jerusalem match of the year was ruined by the decision to play on a veritable mudpatch, which made a mockery of ball skill. Provided the weather does not again play a spoiling game, these two highly talented sides should play some scintillating soccer. The bonus for the winners is that they will move into the second half of the season with a bang and a flourish.

Among the other games which could turn from Cinderellas into beautiful princesses are all those being played on the Sharon plain.

Kfar Sava look a lovely side. They have scored consistently — indeed they are the only team in the league to have netted at least once in every single one of their 14 games — and they should indeed provide a fruitful come-uppance to the over-praised Bnei Yehuda defence.

Nearby, in Petah Tikva, the local Hapoel, who had their run of successes surprisingly halted at Yavne last week, will be up against Maccabi Tel Aviv, who are still aiming to ensure that the big three are not left out on their own in the hunt for championship honours. The Tel Avivians, with Motti Iwanir back in their ranks, had the measure of Haifa last week. This should be another choice game, with both sides at full strength, apart from the absence of Haim Goldberg, the hard tackling Maccabi defender who was sent off last week for hacking down Armeli.

Shlomo Shirazi, Betar Jerusalem's free-flying defender, is another man who is sidelined. He drew a stiff five-game suspension after accumulating five yellow card warnings, and Betar may miss his talent, even though they face relegation-haunted Sha'arayim.

Cross-country

By JACK LEON

TEL AVIV. — Five-time winner Ariel Gamliel and Dov Kremer, together with Irish international guest runner Garry Staunton, are favourites for tomorrow's annual 11-km "Israel cross-country championships" at the Sharon Park, near Nahal Alexander. The meet — the 25th in the series — starts at 11 a.m.

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The Iron Lady's pounding over the 'piffing' Westland affair

By TERRY BELL/Observer News Service

LONDON. — The Iron Lady is no more. Amid accusations of lies, cover-ups and backstabbing the once solid, unbending and principled image of British Premier Margaret Thatcher has blown away in a gale of parliamentary invective.

The Westland helicopter saga — a "piffing" affair in the words of Conservative MP Anthony Beaumont-Dark — festered throughout the early weeks of this month before erupting as a major scandal which has severely shaken the government.

The pros and cons of rescue packages for Britain's lame duck helicopter maker fell away into the background: the amounts involved and the relative importance of the company certainly qualifying the matter as "piffing".

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But despite demands from her own backbench that she cut herself adrift from Brittan, she continued to support her trade and industry minister.

Labour leader Neil Kinnock promptly summed up the matter as showing a government that was "rotten. Not only rotten to the core, but rotten from the core."

It was widely agreed — Thatcher's support notwithstanding — that Brittan had to go, and so he did, last Friday. That the one-time Iron Lady may also have to step down seems inevitable should the Conservatives lose or suffer a bad battering in the elections to be held by next year.

Already, the Conservative Party, with its massive majority in parliament, is trailing third in the opinion polls behind the Social Democrat-Liberal Alliance and Labour.

Perhaps just as indicative in this betting nation, is that London bookmakers are now offering extremely narrow odds on likely successors to Margaret Thatcher.

Heseltine does not feature on the bookies' slates, which are headed by Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe at 2 to 1.

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JERUSALEM
THE MEASURE OF THE YEAR
By Abraham Rabinovich
Photography by Uli Bocker
An earthly view of a heavenly city through the seasons of the year, by a writer and a photographer who are familiar with Jerusalem's back alleys and vagrant moods as with its monuments. This is a description not of tourist sites but of a unique urban experience of a city that is spiritual home for half the world. Written by one of The Jerusalem Post's senior feature writers. Published by Carta and The Jerusalem Post, hardcover, 160 profusely illustrated pages.
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DO WE have a recession, whatever that term may mean? For an answer, let's assume that recession means either an absolute decline in output, employment, private and public consumption, investment, the foreign payments balance - or a significant slowdown from some previous growth rate.

Let's begin with employment, or rather the rate of unemployment. Full employment has been the ideal of a liberal capitalist economy. The right to work was recognized as a basic human right.

But for a number of years now, the concept and goal of zero unemployment, has given way to the acceptance of a "natural" rate of unemployment - a comfortable concept for those who are securely employed, for instance as Treasury officials or tenured professors of economics. Read the National Budget, and you'll see that Marx's "reserve army" to keep wages down and capitalist accumulation going has been remobilized.

Our unemployment rate, which between 1973 and 1979 ranged between 2.6 and 3.9 per cent, and rose to a new "natural" level of some 5 per cent since 1980, shot up to 5.9 per cent in 1984, 6.9 per cent in 1985, and the forecast for 1986 is 7.4 per cent.

There is nothing "natural" about that. It is either an artifact of the capitalist system or the result of external constraints. But a society that can no longer provide jobs for its workers is definitely "receding." By the criterion of the unemployment rate we are therefore in a recession. Judging by the forecasts of the National Budget, the new entrants into the labour force had better look elsewhere for a living.

ANOTHER criterion by which to define recession may be output - the

'You can't have your cake'

MEIR MERHAV

gross national product (GNP). In 1973, the first year of our winter of discontent, the gross national product still rose by 5 per cent. In 1974 it rose even faster - by 5.2 per cent and slowed to 4 per cent in 1975.

In the next two years the recessionary policy of the late finance minister Yehoshua Rabinovitch throttled growth back to 1.9 and 1.5 per cent, but from 1978 to 1981 it rose to an average 3.8 per cent.

By comparison with Western



European countries. Israel's average annual growth rate between 1981 and 1983, of 3.6 per cent, is still quite respectable. So what are we complaining about?

We are complaining - and rightly so - because we don't compare our economy's performance with that of the mature industrial economies, but with the growth rates we attained before 1973. We somehow perceive that rapid growth is an imperative of a still uncompleted Zionism. We

sense that doing no better than the Europeans is not enough and that without growth there will be no aliyah, no security, no social justice.

But it is not only that. Since 1982, our growth rate has slowed to the snail's pace of 1.5 per cent a year - less than the 1.7 per cent by which the population has grown. This means that the young people can't find jobs, except at the expense of the middle-aged who are thus thrown out of work.

We have therefore "receded" twice over: from an annual growth rate of 10 per cent and more in the sixties, to a still tolerable average of 3.6 per cent from 1973 till 1980, with virtual stagnation since then and, by official forecast, for this year and the next and possibly beyond.

MATTERS are even worse if we look closely at the growth we have had. Part of it has come from including wages paid to public sector em-

ployees as part of the GNP. Another, and very substantial part, is the growth generated by defence production, which has expanded rapidly during the seventies. If someone would go to the trouble of separating out these "contributions," it would probably become clear that we have stagnated for a dozen years.

Let's have a look at investment, an indicator of future growth. Israel has always had one of the highest rates of saving and investment. In the early seventies, our gross capital formation stood at more than 30 per cent of the GNP. Since 1976, there has been a steady decline - to 19.6 per cent last year. Deduct residential building, which usually takes up a third of the total capital formation, and our investment is down to a level that barely keeps the apparatus of production intact.

The main way in which we judge whether there is a recession is through consumption. Yet, with the sole exception of the "Horowitz Year" of 1980, when private consumption fell by 2.9 per cent, we have eaten and drunk, made merry, gone abroad, or watched others do so on television or on the video, from 1973 to 1983.

The average annual increase in private consumption has been 4.5 per cent. Except for four years out of the last thirteen, private consumption outgrew output.

If the growth of private consumption is the measure, there has been an accession, not a recession, until the last two years, and even that slowdown is mild.

HOWEVER, the data may be grossly misleading. We all know that real wages have been depressed cruelly. If our economy was of the textbook type, and there were no savings, total consumption would have

shrivelled. It didn't happen because, for one thing, the erosion of real wages redistributed income to those who live by the work of others, and for another thing because "the public" protected its standard of living by drawing on current savings.

The middle class observer, for whom the shops are full, is not likely to notice the cut in consumption forced by government policy has been borne mainly by those who have no savings. For the petit bourgeois there is no visible recession. But since there is a limit to the degree by which total private consumption can be throttled back through wage erosion, we may not see much more of a "recession" in private consumption. That, in fact, is the forecast of the National Budget. Much the same is true for public consumption - civilian and for defence.

So do we have a recession or not? By comparison with the past - yes, very much so. And by comparison with other industrial countries.

For the foreseeable future there is no sign whatsoever of anything that might move the economy out of its stagnation, nor is there, apart from pious hopes and empty promises, anything in government policy that may spark a revival of growth.

As a temporary phase of retrenchment recession may have been inevitable. In the face of an imminent balance of payments crisis and runaway inflation there was no avoiding throttling back output and employment, consumption and investment. But the term "recession" holds out hope for a turn for the better. The term "stagnation" does not - and that is the message of government policy for this year and the next, at least.

What we have is worse than recession. We have stagnation, and it looks long-lasting.

It's all right for some

MACABEE DEAN

THE EMERGENCY economic policy adopted by the government in July sent shock waves bearing the bitter taste of financial collapse throughout the industrial scene. Nearly all plants began to stagger - and many are still staggering - from high interest rates dictated by the Bank of Israel-rates so high that even the most voracious American loan shark would call them exorbitant.

Moreover, governmental policy split the industrial scene into three distinct, if overlapping, production segments: one which depends on the government for orders is suffering badly and is in a deep recession; one which caters to the local market is on the whole not feeling the recession pinch; and one which is export-oriented is faring at about the same rate as last year.

The government cut-back in public works and public building played havoc with contractors and those industries which supply them with construction materials, ranging from tiles to sanitary installations. Solel Boneh is an example of a company whose activities have been cut back sharply, and there is considerable talk that it will have to reduce its work force tremendously. Private building companies, which depend much less on government orders, are also facing difficulties: for most have a large supply of flats on hand and few buyers. Immigration from abroad hit a low point in 1985; and young couples are evidently not setting up households as in former years. If Russia really lets down its barriers, and a wave of emigrants is destined for Israel, there undoubtedly will be a shortage of flats to house them.

A second field suffering from government policy are those pharmaceutical plants which make medicines for the Histadrut's Kupat Holim Clalit health fund, which owes them \$15 million. Although this is strictly a matter between the fund and some 12 plants (including Teva, in which Koor has considerable equity), KHC has involved the government by demanding that it come to its help.

Thus, the Finance Ministry's acquiescence to the fund's requests will ease the position of these 12 pharmaceutical companies.

The third industrial group thrown for a bad loop by the government (specifically the Defence Ministry) cutback is the electronic industries, once the pride of the country. There are some 38,000 engineers, junior engineers, technicians, and skilled workers employed in these industries. The heads of these industries claim that unless the situation changes soon, they will have to dismiss about 4,000 of them.

This will have grave repercussions on the field, for those out of work will have the choice of either trying to find a job in competing industries, which will force down wages and salaries, or trying their luck abroad. The situation is none too good in the U.S. either; but faced with the prospect of being jobless in Israel or finding some sort of a job in the U.S., most will choose the latter.

And within a few years at most, when the Defence Ministry has to renew its orders, and the electronics industry again booms, we will witness delegations of politicians going abroad to try to entice them to return home.

BUT FOR the present, the solution is stepping up exports. In 1984 (the last year for which complete figures are available), the electronic industries exported slightly more than two-thirds of their total production of almost \$1.8 billion and strenuous steps are being made to step up exports. Ten companies were represented at the Asian aerospace exhibition in Singapore; gateway not only to a goodly part of the Far East, but especially of mainland China. For this event, a special brochure in Chinese was prepared (by Ruth Kaphan, a graphic designer, the Chinese wife of Zvi Kaphan, who grew up in Shanghai and heads a advertising agency).

The problem with exporting, not only electronics, but also all other items, is profitability. The exporters will not make the effort (even if the local market dries up) if they are not sure that they will make a profit, no matter how small. And this means export incentives, which is a euphemism for subsidies. But the government has reduced its help for exporters this year, a step it says is possible since the European currencies are rising in value vis-à-vis the dollar. Moreover, the Free Trade Zone agreement with the U.S. should give exporters a considerable edge over other exporting countries in gaining a foothold in the American markets. The Israel-American Chamber of Commerce even predicts that Israeli exports to the U.S. will rise by 30 per cent this year. This is not a pipe-dream, since they rose by 26 per cent in 1985, before the effects of the Free Trade Zone agreement were really felt. Furthermore, Operation Independence (the task force) has departed radically from the former concept of concentrating on raising investment capital in the U.S. to moving Israeli consumer goods, especially textiles and processed foods. Nevertheless, the Manufacturers Association does not think that overall exports will rise by the predicted 8 per cent this year (the same rate as in 1985), but will "stagnate".

Both of the latter items selling briskly in Israel, as are some industrial items such as locally made refrigerators and washing machines, although the manufacturers claim that the price freeze is hitting them hard. But it must be admitted that they are not waiting in a loud voice; they sound more as if they are just keeping in "waiting practice" for when times really get bad. Nevertheless, many plants have trimmed redundant labour. What can be said with certainty is that the promised government move to see that manpower would be shifted from the public services (civil, municipal, local authorities, national institutions, etc.) to industry has not materialized, and will evidently not do so, at least not in the near future.

But the shops selling consumer

goods are not complaining. Where does the money come from? Gross wages have been eroded to a huge extent; and even if net take home pay has been reduced much less, it has been reduced.

Several factors are at play. The first is that there is clear evidence that the public is eating up its savings, selling its mutual fund shares, cashing in savings schemes, etc. Moreover, those who formerly saved are not doing so to the same extent, one reason frequently mentioned is the belief that the emergency economic policy, although successful so far, has not solved the country's economic problems; only restored them to the state they were a few years ago, and that additional harsh financial moves can be expected. Another fear is that the present two-tier system of foreign currency (exporters receiving incentives in one form or another and importers paying heavy customs, taxes, etc.) cannot hold up for long, and that there will be a devaluation of the shekel about April. This sends householders out to buy imported items, which will become much more expensive after a devaluation, and while out shopping, many also buy locally made items. The idea is to get rid of spare funds. After all, a refrigerator in the kitchen is preferable in such circumstances to money in the bank.

SOME CALL IT "deflation," others dub it "disinflation." Whatever you name it, the phenomenon is being felt, much to people's relief.

"It's about time!" says Sandy L., mother of three. "For the first time in about half a year, I can actually go to the supermarket with a shopping list rather than with two empty shopping baskets and a wad of cash with which to buy as many items as possible for fear their price will go up sharply by the time I get to the store again."

Sandy's reaction is typical, and at the Treasury and Ministry of Industry and Trade, the navigators of the country's economy are hoping the euphoria will continue even as occasional price freezes occur in the general price freeze for economic reasons. "Things have definitely returned to normal - I mean the general shopping atmosphere," says Miriam Tau, press officer of the Shekem department store chain.

"Perhaps a significant sign is our customers' interest in credit sales. For our so-called preferred group of regular customers, members of Moadon Hashkem, we have a scheme whereby they pay for their purchases with a post-dated cheque, for a month's deferral of payment. This, in addition to our regular discount for Shekem customers, means a substantial saving."

"Well, Moadon members are not utilizing their deferred payment privilege as frequently today as they did six months ago," she says.

A sense of relief

AARON SITTNER

As for the general volume of sales, household durables such as washing machines, refrigerators and television receivers are being purchased as people require them - with no more panic buying, Tau adds. "People once again are looking, checking and comparing prices before going into big items. The only exception - and we ourselves do not understand the motivation - is the current upsurge in demand for video-cassette recorders. They're moving out of the stock rooms at a very fast pace, just as in the days before the price freeze."

A visual record of the braking of inflation appears in the dry figures of the Central Bureau of Statistics' "Preliminary Estimates of the National Accounts for 1985."

According to the bureau, while private consumption was down by an average of 2 per cent during last year, the drop in the third quarter (beginning with the July price stabilization measures) was a whopping 9 per cent. Auto sales were down by 30 per cent; foreign travel by 36 per cent - not only because of a decrease in spendable income but also thanks to the travel tax and fare surcharges.

Meir Gazit, a senior member of management at the Hamashbir Lazarian department store chain, told *The Jerusalem Post*: "There is definitely less disposable income in people's pockets now. That's why people are back to the wise ways of consumerism and are comparing

prices from shop to shop before putting their cash down."

"Our sales volume has now stabilized. We are now busy trying to hold on to our customers by emphasizing our special sales - daily or weekly specials. Just the other day we moved 20,000 pairs of socks off our counters in a one-day sale. People have become very attentive to our advertisements."

"Yes, we do have a few merchandising problems, but that has nothing to do with the end of inflation. We have had a relatively mild winter, and women's coats have not been selling too well. We may put them on special sale. But there is a limit as to how much you can cut their prices."

At the semi-official Israel Consumers Council, the apparent end to runaway inflation is being greeted with joy. "The chaos is over," director Ada Levanon says. "There are no more wild buying sprees and hoarding. Shoppers can at last plan and compare."

"Until this development evolved, there was frequently no need to compare prices between shops. That was because by the time you returned to the first shop, where the price was lower than at the third shop you had checked, the prices had already been raised and you were now confused as to where the lowest price actually was - at the first, second or third outlet!"

Levanon predicts that the arrest of

inflation will not only make consumers happy but will also force competing manufacturers to upgrade their products in order to hold onto their share of the market.

Meanwhile, end-of-season sales in clothing have begun in most places throughout the country, and the annual shoe sales will be next. "Good buying opportunities are definitely to be had right now," a spokesman for the capital's retailers told *The Post* this week.

Ordinarily, a halt in price inflation is accompanied by heightened interest in bank savings accounts, something that is not evident at this time.

A spokesman for one of the big three banks cautioned that in Israel statistics on the flow of funds into savings accounts are not a reliable measure of the public's confidence in the durability of the general price level.

This was so because of the existence of the black market in dollars and also the lively interest in the Tel Aviv stock exchange. "In the overall capital market structure here," he said, "these two investment/savings media tend to make the public's interest in conventional bank savings schemes an unreliable indicator of popular sentiment regarding inflation."

"And," he added, "you must bear in mind that in our case, the muzzling of inflation has been accompanied by substantial erosion in people's take-home pay. That means that although you may be spending less, you also have less to put away for a rainy day."



Construction has been hard hit by government cuts. (Israel Sun)



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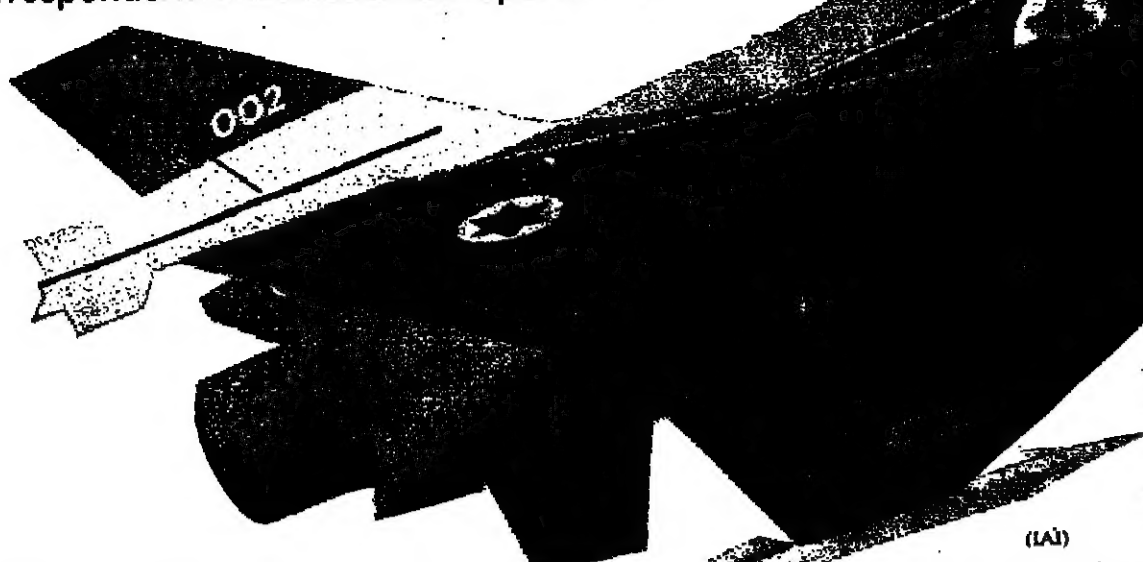
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DOGFIGHT

Years before it is due to take off, the Lavi fighter has run into heavy flack. The nation's top brass and political leaders are divided. Is the aircraft essential to security or is it an extravagant white elephant? Defence Correspondent Hirsh Goodman reports.



(LA)

Not just a fighter

FOR MOSHE ARENS, the Lavi is more than a weapons system: it's a vision; almost an obsession. No man has been more closely associated with it, and there is no stronger or more articulate advocate for the continued development and production of the fighter on which over \$1 billion has been already spent. For Arens, the Lavi is the key not only to Israel's military and industrial future, but to the future strength of Israeli-American strategic relations as well.

Arens, now a minister-without-portfolio, handed the Defence Ministry over to Yitzhak Rabin some 18 months ago and, with it, prime responsibility for the future of the Lavi. Yet, judging by the decor of Arens' functional office in the government complex in Jerusalem's Sheikh Jarrah quarter, one would hardly think so. Clocks on the wall; pictures and models of aircraft are everywhere; and, in one corner, a metre-high model of the Lavi "flies" through circles of perspex, dominating everything else in the room.

"It will fly," Arens affirms. "There is no doubt about that. There is not a government - not a national unity government, not a narrow Likud or Labour-led government - that could now cancel the project."

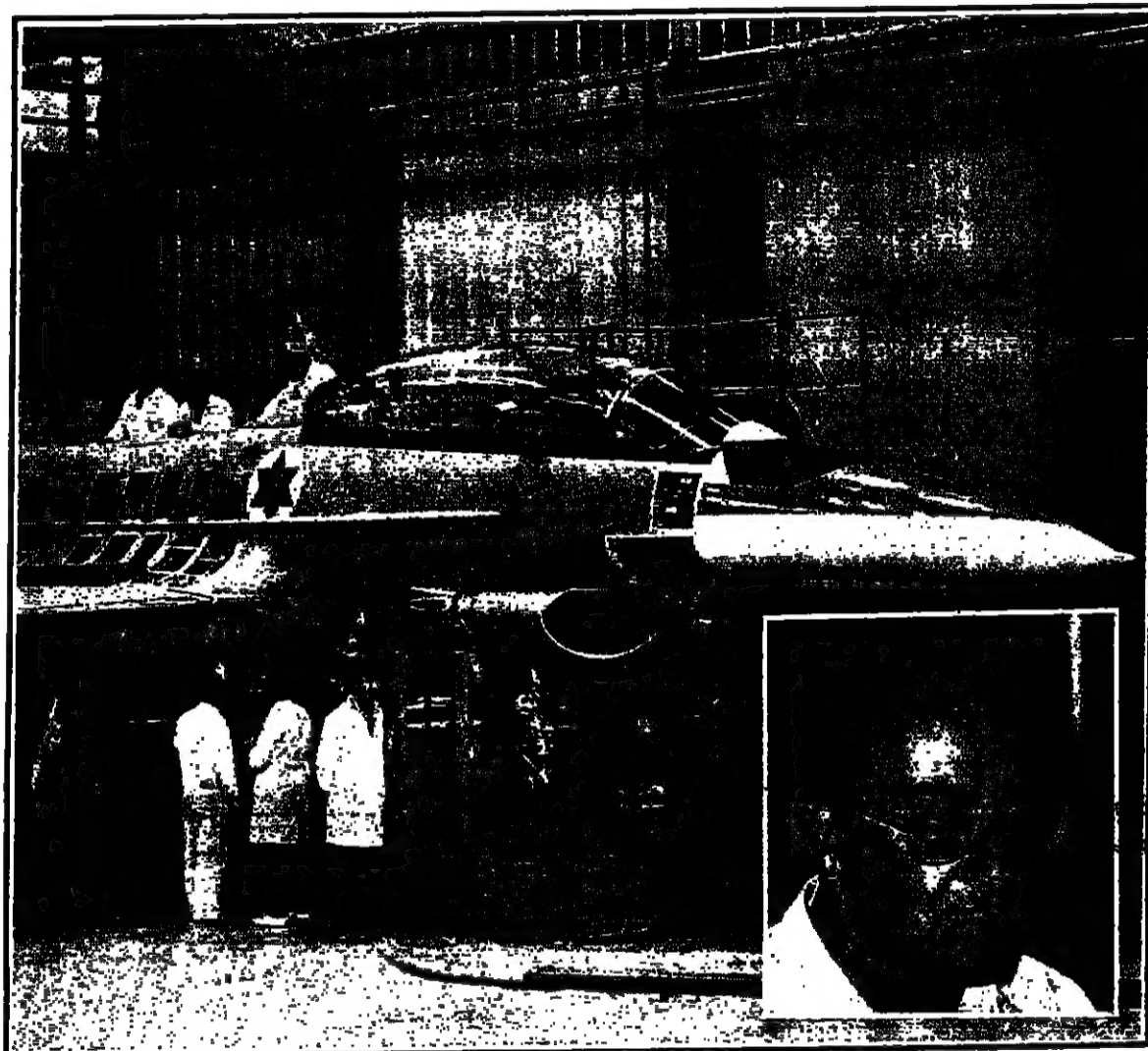
HIS BELIEF in the plane and the need to build it has not been shaken by the opposition to the project that has developed - not even by the fierce opposition that has manifested itself in the highest echelons of the military in recent weeks.

"After all," he says, "soldiers have to defend the country, and that is their prime concern. They want the tools to do it with now. We, the political leadership, have to balance the country's needs, to plot its future. We have been charged with translating vision into reality, of planning the strategic development of the nation, not only solving its tactical problems."

Arens is not disdainful of the military - quite the opposite - but he recognizes the inherent contradiction between the government and the military. For him, both as defence minister and now as a member of the inner cabinet where he is privy to the darkest secrets of the state, the Lavi is more than just a fighter. He perceives it not as a piece of hardware, but as a stepping-stone to the ultimate security and economic well-being of the state.

"The technical benefits of the project are clear to all," he says, "but what has been ignored in the argument until now, is the contribution the production of the Lavi will make to Israel's deterrent posture."

"When we go and buy an F-16, the Arabs know we have an F-16. When we build a Lavi, they don't know



Working on the Lavi, (inset) Moshe Arens.

(Brutmann, Harni)

what we have. All they know is that this tiny nation here was able to put together the best plane in the world, crammed with locally designed and developed advanced technology. And then they have to ask themselves what else have these people been able to do."

He pictures the Arabs reasoning that if the Israelis were technically capable of producing the best airplane in the world, they must surely have been able to develop the other responses they need in order to defend themselves.

"Imagine," he continues, "how we would feel here right now if the tables were turned: if the Syrians were developing a Lavi with the Russians in the same way we are working with the Americans. Our reaction would be a whole lot different than if the Russians were to provide the Syrians with the latest plane in their arsenal."

THE NEED to deter has become more acute than ever before from Israel's point of view, says Arens, because war, by virtue of the growing sophistication of weapons, has become more lethal and Israel has therefore become more vulnerable. The role of the Israel Defence Forces, no matter what the generals may think, is not to win a war, but to prevent one from happening.

"This you can only do if you have deterrence. If the other side sits down and calculates the price they will have to pay for any specific action, they come to the conclusion that an attack is not worthwhile. If they have no idea what responses we may have up our sleeves, the chances are far better that that is exactly the conclusion they will reach."

An essential element in deterrence is also the way in which the Arabs view Israeli-American strategic ties at any given point in time - "and what could be more indicative of a strong strategic relationship than the cooperation on the Lavi?" Arens asks rhetorically.

"The plane is 50 per cent American, and represents something that has never been done in the Western world before. No other country has

developed an aircraft with the U.S. as a cooperative venture - something that opens both marketing and joint production possibilities between the two countries, in addition to the obvious statement this makes about the strength of the strategic bond between us."

ARENS HAS little patience for the claims by the military that given the projected size of the air force in the mid-1990s, when the Lavi is due to be operational, there will be no room for the 300 planes originally projected.

"Who knows what the size of the air force will be in 10 or 15 years' time? What the economic situation here will be or what the situation vis-a-vis the confrontation states will be? There is also no knowing what the export potential will be."

"I have heard the same short-sighted arguments about every weapons system we ever built," he says, "and where would we be today if we had listened to them?"

He scoffs at the air force's reported preference for dumping the Lavi in favour of off-the-shelf American fighters.

"I read they are interested in the

ATF [the next generation American fighter]. Well, let me tell you about the ATF. It is nothing more at this stage than a concept, something on paper. There is no clear idea about what the plane will be, or even if it will be, and we probably won't know anything about it for the next four or five years. It's almost like the air force asking for a space capsule."

He is equally derisive of those who are advocating that Israel buy a relatively cheap sophisticated platform and add locally-produced avionics and electronics to it here.

"Firstly, there is no guarantee that the Americans would fund such a project in the way they have funded, and continue to fund, the Lavi. They have never done so in the past. And secondly, there is no such thing as adding 'brains' to a body and creating a plane that will be anything like the Lavi."

"A fighter is an integrated system, each part of the whole locking into perfect union. Each segment of the system is built in a way to optimize ultimate performance, and along the way the benefits to Israeli technology and industry are tremendous."

The critics' arguments, he says, are not rational, they are just short-sighted.

ARENS IS convinced that "if we play our cards right", there is no reason why the Americans should not support the production phase of the aircraft at a projected annual cost of \$50 million for 24-30 planes.

"The Americans see the Lavi as a need for a fighter. They agreed to us building what we thought was good for us. They have supported us fully, and will continue to do so. We have an excellent deal and I can see no reason why it should not continue unless we ourselves ruin it."

He has a special pride in "the deal," as it was primarily he who managed to get the Americans to agree to the virtually unprecedented change to the foreign aid bill that allowed \$250m. of the American aid package to be spent on the Lavi annually in Israel.

"Imagine," he says "where Israeli industry would be today if the Lavi had not generated \$250 million a year locally. And imagine what the results of our cancelling the programme now would be, not only for local industry, but for our relations with the U.S."

"If we throw a billion dollars of their money spent on the Lavi out of the window, do you think they will hurry to support us in something else, something new? Do you think they will be left with a great deal of confidence in our ability to deliver? I think not."

Our meeting has been short but intense. The next appointment has arrived and Arens still has a lot to say. After all, the subject is one that has been with him for years. From his point of view, the attacks on the Lavi constitute more than just public questioning of his judgement in committing Israel to a project of such magnitude; they strike at his most fundamental beliefs. For Moshe Arens, the Lavi is not just a fighter. It is an ideology.

No harmful intent

THOSE WHO want the Lavi to fly regard Dan Halperin, the economic minister at the Israel Embassy in Washington, as the force behind the attempts to undermine the project. Halperin, they claim, used his considerable influence to divert the \$250m. appropriation earmarked for the Lavi to more general purposes, thus dealing the fighter a death blow.

Halperin, who happened to be in Jerusalem this week, denies the charge. He says all his moves in the matter were coordinated with the Defence Ministry and the defence minister, and this was confirmed by the director-general of the Defence Ministry, Aluf (res.) Menachem Meron.

The intention was never to harm the Lavi, Halperin explains, but to enhance the project by adding flexibility to the way in which Israel could use the money. The original law specified that it had to be used for the "development" of the fighter.

The intention of changing the wording to allow it to be used for other purposes as well, was to enable it to be used for the actual production of the fighter, not that the project be cancelled in favour of some other military needs.

Halperin says he was deeply grave injustice by the reports in the Israeli press, fuelled by those who resented the change in the law, that he had been the Treasury's "errand boy" in the attempt to shoot down the Lavi.

"I personally played a key role in fighting the difficult battle to get the Americans to give us the export licences that made the plane's development possible," he said. "I never received any order or indication from the Treasury to try and 'kill' the project. On the contrary, my orders were to facilitate it in every way and that is exactly what I did."

He explained that the \$250m. grant for the Lavi was not reassessed by the Israelis and the Americans in a vacuum, but in

the context of a U.S. notification that the special offset arrangements that channelled aid money spent by Israel in the U.S. back to Israel, would be phased out by 1987. It was agreed that instead of this, the appropriation for the Lavi would be increased to \$300m. to compensate Israel for the loss in offset revenue. The additional \$50m. would not necessarily be linked to the Lavi, but could be spent as the Israeli defence establishment saw fit.

"IT WAS at this point, when the change in the special appropriation was initiated by the Americans that Mandy [Defence Ministry Director-General Menachem Meron], and I discussed with the Americans the possibility of adding flexibility to the entire \$300m. not just the \$250m."

"The decision was not taken by us in order to kill the Lavi," Halperin continued, "but to allow our defence decision-making process in Israel to be more rational and more independent. It would have allowed us to send more money one year and less the next, as our needs dictated."

In addition, he said, the decision would have allowed the money in those Israeli budgets it considered vital, with the Lavi receiving the amount consistent with the needs of the project at any given time. "This way," he pointed out, "the Lavi would be a project of choice, not something that we would have to continue with just because we were receiving \$250m. a year."

Halperin is convinced not only that the Americans will not withdraw the \$300m. special grant if it is not earmarked specifically for the Lavi, but also that they will support the \$550m. a year production process.

"They understand that we need a plane, and they agreed with us that the Lavi is the plane we should have. They are committed to the project and so am I."

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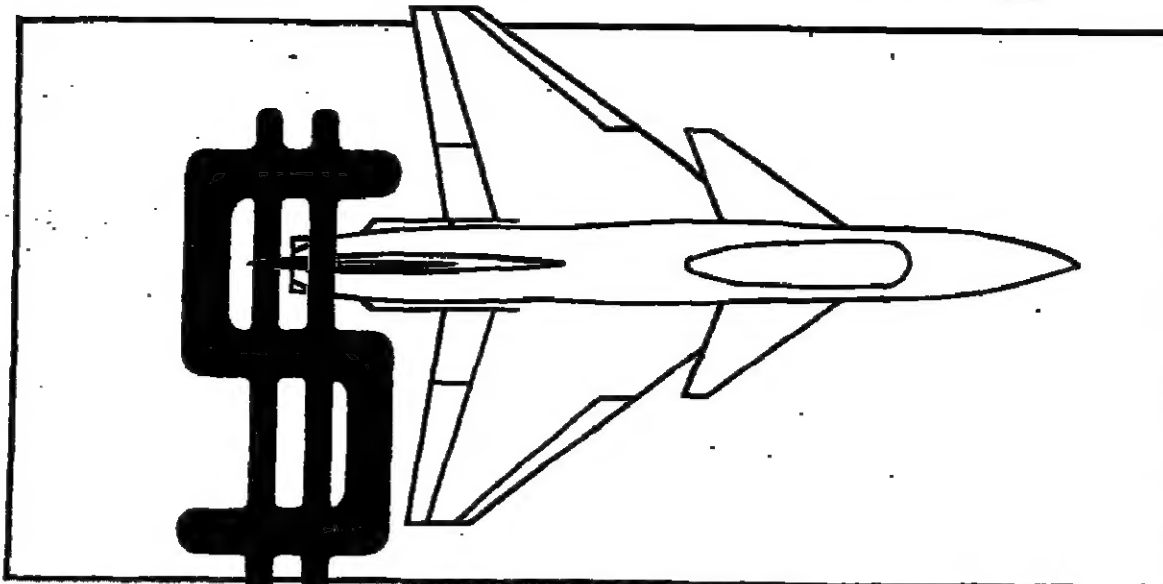
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GIVING WISELY

The cost of backing out



FROM THE start, senior officials at the U.S. Defence Department strongly opposed the development of the Lavi. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger. Under Secretary Fred Ikle and other Pentagon officials argued that Israel, in the long run, would be much better served by purchasing more U.S.-made planes, such as the F-16.

They noted, for example, that the U.S. Air Force, in an early study, had concluded that the Lavi would not significantly enhance Israel's overall military capability. In part, they were also reflecting the strong opposition of several American aerospace companies, which had expressed concern that the Lavi might some day compete in the export market with their own planes.

"Israel considers this costly programme of great national importance to its high technology industrial base and military independence," a report issued in 1983 by the U.S. Government's General Accounting Office said. "However, Israel will be dependent on U.S. technology and financing for major portions of the aircraft. Israel will also be dependent on U.S. permission for third-country sales if it attempts to export the Lavi because it will have a U.S. engine."

The opposition in the Pentagon was understandable. Weinberger and company, for example, recognized the potential gains to the American aircraft industry by the purchase of yet more American fighters by Israel. There were tremendous sums of money and many jobs at stake.

IAI has projected that 300 Lavi fighters will eventually come off the assembly line — all slated for service in the Israeli Air Force between the years 1990 and 2010. Selling Israel another 300 F-16s instead would have represented a major financial coup for General Dynamics.

For the Pentagon, the spillover effect of such an F-16 sale would have been significant. The base price of the F-16 for use in the U.S. Air Force would have been reduced since the initial research and development expenditures could have

been spread out over a larger number of foreign customers — in this case Israel. The production lines would have continued full speed ahead.

(Even without the Lavi, the Israeli Air Force has already taken delivery of or has on order 150 F-16s. Israel has also purchased 50 more expensive and sophisticated F-15s from the U.S.)

Weinberger's strong and consistent opposition to the Lavi ultimately did not prevail in Washington. Largely at the urging of Secretary of State George Shultz, Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger and National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane, President Ronald Reagan agreed that the U.S. would make available to Israel the export technology licences necessary for the production of the Lavi. And in recent years, Congress has written foreign aid bills so that approximately \$1.2b. of the regular U.S. military funds was specifically made available for the research and development of the Lavi in both the U.S. and Israel.

In the 1986 fiscal year legislation, for example, Israel is slated to receive \$1.8b. in total foreign military sales (FMS) grants. Of that sum, Israel can use \$250m. for the Lavi programme in Israel, another \$50m. for other defence projects in Israel, and \$150m. for Lavi-related contracts in the U.S. The rest of the money has to be spent in the U.S.

Normally, all FMS funds are supposed to remain in the U.S. to pay for the sales of American-made military equipment to foreign nations. Israel, over the past four years, has won the extraordinary exception in connection with the Lavi project. Israel had earlier won a one-time exemption of some \$100m. for its production of the Merkava tank.

IF ISRAEL were to cancel the Lavi programme now, it would not be

able simply to transfer this year's \$250m. Lavi appropriation in Israel to some other segment of the Israeli economy. That, according to key staffers of the Senate Appropriations Committee, was not the "intent" of the law. The money would still be available to Israel, they said, but it would have to be spent in the U.S. on other military equipment. Thus, there is a built-in incentive to continue the project.

Different language, of course, could be written in the 1987 fiscal year legislation. But given the extraordinary budget-cutting mood in Washington — as a result of the Gramm-Rudman Law — that would be very difficult.

The \$50m. appropriated this year for non-Lavi expenses in Israel was designed to ease the pain in Israel because of the phased removal of all "offset" military procurement arrangements with Israel and other countries over the next few years. That offset programme had required U.S. defence contractors to subcontract to Israeli companies some com-

ponents of the military systems slated for Israel. But that whole offset programme is now being removed.

Over the years, several key lawmakers have led the Lavi fight in Washington, including Republican Sen. Bob Kasten of Wisconsin and Republican Jack Kemp of New York, and Democratic Representatives Mel Levine of California, Larry Smith of Florida, Bob Torricelli of New Jersey and Charles Wilson of Texas. A decision at this late date to cancel the Lavi, they concede, would certainly represent a major embarrassment with potentially damaging repercussions.

"It would have to be explained extremely carefully on Capitol Hill," said Levine in an interview. "Many of us went out on a limb. There will be many who will be confused. It will be seen as a sign of a very significant inconsistency on the part of Israel." But Levine, a strong supporter

of Israel, said he was in no position "to opine about the affordability of the Lavi. That essentially has to be an internal Israeli decision."

In effect, Israel has already paid a heavy political price in Washington in the lengthy struggle to win U.S. funding for the Lavi in the face of strong Pentagon opposition. Michael Gale, a former White House liaison to the Jewish community, pointedly recalled the other day: "A lot of blood was spilled over the Lavi."

IN RECENT years, Levine and others in Congress repeatedly defended the U.S. funding of the Lavi — sometimes during heated legislative battles. In 1984, for instance, they defeated a major effort by Democratic Rep. Nick Rahall of West Virginia to eliminate the \$250m. in funding for the Lavi. Last year, a similar amendment was introduced on the House floor by Republican Rep. Bob Badham of California who had been encouraged to try to kill the Lavi by some U.S. aerospace industries. But Levine and his pro-Israeli

colleagues, in some speedy back-room politicking, successfully outmaneuvered Badham, who eventually withdrew his amendment before it could come up for a vote.

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee (Aipac), the pro-Israeli lobbying organization in Washington, had clearly made a big push to win Congressional support for the Lavi's funding. It had widely circulated a memorandum noting that the programme will help "Israel's growing defence burden by enabling it to replace older planes and equipment at a lower cost." It, too, would be embarrassed by the killing of the project.

There is a real fear at the Israeli Embassy in Washington that Israel's best friends on Capitol Hill would now look very silly if Israel itself stopped the programme. Israeli Embassy officials and other pro-Israeli political lobbyists agreed that the embarrassment of a such a last-minute cancellation of the Lavi would have a potentially sharp impact in Washington. They warned of the long-term dangers to the credibility of future requests by Israel for special legislative favours.

"All of our requests would be scrutinized much more closely than they are," one Israeli official said. He conceded that this already might be the case because of the recent wave of publicity in Israel surrounding the debate over the Lavi. Many U.S. lawmakers would understandably be less willing to go out on a limb for Israel the next time around.

IAI officials continue to insist that the Lavi is more affordable than the major alternative — the purchase of more F-16s. They currently estimate that the Lavi will wind up costing about \$15m. each; they insist that the purchase of more F-16s will cost "at least" twice that amount.

But other specialists here are not all that certain about that IAI financial projection. They noted that the

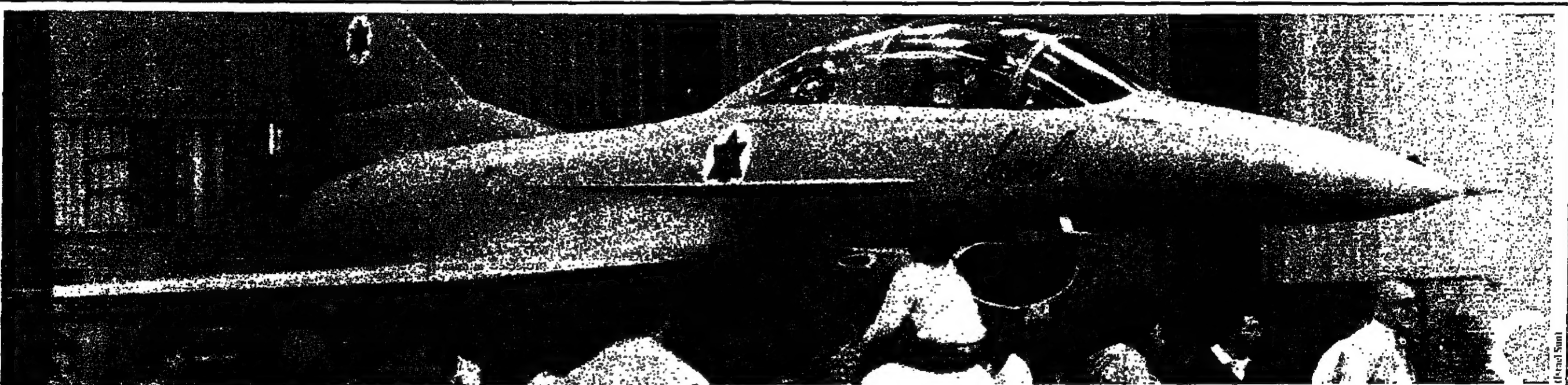
Lavi, before it gets off the ground, could suffer from major cost overruns. This has been the case in the history of most new weapons systems, especially those which incorporate such a high degree of advanced — and sometimes really untested — technology.

Still, a decision to cancel the Lavi would also be quite expensive for IAI, which has already signed 110 contracts for various goods and services with 100 American companies in 21 states. Those contracts are currently valued at between \$200-750m. According to IAI sources, scrapping those deals at this point would still wind up costing IAI nearly \$200m. in penalty clauses.

Thus, the widespread assumption in Washington today is that it is much too late in the game to scrap the Lavi. Perhaps, American and Israeli experts said, the project was much too ambitious for Israel from the start. Perhaps, they added, Israel would have been better off seven years ago by beginning the co-production in Israel of F-16s, but the U.S. then was unwilling to permit such co-production, although it would almost certainly be more prepared to accept the notion now. Thus, that point is currently moot.

What IAI officials and others have been anxiously trying to do in recent months — as part of their continuing effort to ease the opposition within Israel — is to negotiate some sort of co-production arrangement for the Lavi with a major American aerospace company. Such direct U.S. involvement in the project also could eventually make it easier to export the Lavi, perhaps even to the U.S. That is not as far-fetched as it may sound. The U.S. Navy has leased Kfir to simulate MIG-21s in training exercises. It would also represent a major shot in the arm to the beleaguered Lavi programme — an American vote of confidence in it.

But so far, none of the American firms has agreed to any joint venture with IAI. But its search goes on. Finding such an American "angel" would certainly help to quieten much of the nervous debate within Israel.



'A luxury we can't afford'

HIRSH GOODMAN

FOR MANY in the defence establishment the Lavi, once the swan of the air force, has become an ugly duckling. In recent weeks, opposition — especially among senior officers — has increased in intensity.

Though the establishment remains overtly committed to the project, serious doubts are beginning to creep in as to whether Israel will be able to sustain the development and production of the fighter, estimated to cost anywhere between \$6 billion-\$10 billion over the next 15 years.

While until now the American administration has picked up the entire annual Israeli development tab of \$250 million, and another \$150 million are being spent with companies attached to the project in the U.S., there are those who fear that American policy could change, leaving Israel with an incomplete white elephant and not enough aid money

to purchase a last-minute alternative.

Two things have happened to nurture the current opposition: One is a change in the wording of the American law that will allow the \$250m. a year originally specified to be spent only on the development of the Lavi in Israel to be used for "the Lavi and other purposes" from fiscal 1986 onwards.

The other is the realization of senior military officers, when they sat down to reassess the IDF's long range plans in light of recent cuts in the defence budget, that the air force is going to have in 1995, about when the Lavi will be operational, will simply not be big enough to afford the 300 Lavis originally planned.

THE FREEING of part of the Lavi money to be used as Israel sees fit was a heaven-sent bounty for Rav Aluf Moshe Levy's general staff, who are currently being called upon to make some of the most serious decisions ever faced by this country's military establishment. Until now the word of the general staff, on what the country needed to defend itself was considered sacrosanct by politicians, who traditionally rubber-stamped the military's demands. The change, dictated by Israel's economic realities, began to make itself felt four years ago, when the first significant defence budget cuts were made, and reached a peak this year, when the army was forced to cut back its stockpiles and training.

ONE HAS ONLY to read the newspapers to understand that the gener-

al staff is worried at every level: Good manpower cannot be kept in uniform. Reservists do not get enough training in view of the limitations on the use of ammunition and vehicles. Orders to the military industries are down.

The list of cumulative cutbacks is endless, and most of them will not be known by the general public. We will only see the overt manifestations, such as the firing of hundreds of scientists from Rafael, the weapons' development authority, and other defence-related industries.

The "age of pauperism" that has come to the IDF, as one senior officer put it last week, was the result of a cycle. When the defence budget was first cut (by Ezer Weizman in the late 1970s), stockpiles and building projects were reduced. When there was nothing left to save here, training was curtailed. When this reached a point where the quality of the IDF was being called into question, research and development projects were frozen or cancelled.

What this means is that the IDF has had to re-think its strategy for dealing with potential worst-case scenarios in the coming decade — a decade during which the Iraq-Iran war is bound to end and the confrontation states will be receiving unprecedented quantities of sophisticated weapons.

IN CONFORMITY with this new strategy, the Lavi takes on different

proportions. Based on the assumed production of 300 Lavis for the Israeli air force, the projected cost per aircraft was around \$22m. But if the air force in 1995 will be only able to purchase 150 Lavis, the unit cost will almost double, to around \$40m. per aircraft. At that price there are other planes the air force would prefer. An added attraction of these other planes is that they could be purchased with American aid money in the U.S., and the \$250m. earmarked to be spent on the Lavi in Israel, could be spent on other, more essential things.

An American fighter such as the F-16 C, army officers claim, could be purchased for around \$10m. (though other experts agree with Moshe Arens that this figure is optimistically unrealistic), and it could be upgraded to comply with air force demands at a very low cost by adding Israeli-made components.

These components, the Lavi's detractors say, could be paid for out of the American aid money that will now be usable for "other purposes" than the Lavi, thus providing alternative employment for those segments of Israeli industry that would be adversely affected by the closure of the Lavi project.

The air force would thus have an affordable plane with money left

over to purchase America's planned new fighter, the ATF, when it comes on the market in the mid-1990s. Industry here would have work, and the qualitative gap between Israel and the confrontation states would be closed. Almost the ideal solution.

BECAUSE OF the change in the military's attitude, the Lavi has lost its principal backers, though the politicians, who see the issue in a different context, remain committed to the project.

Ironically, the commander of the air force, Aluf Amos Lapidot, was the first manager of the Lavi project. Under him, the plane underwent a metamorphosis from a low-grade \$6m. "work-horse" designed to replace Israel's aging inventory of Skyhawks and Phantoms, to a hyper-sophisticated aircraft that could now cost anywhere up to \$40m.

Equally ironically, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who was one of two members of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee who voted against the development of the Lavi when it was originally discussed some five years ago, has become one of the aircraft's staunchest supporters.

Rabin's frame of reference, like that of Prof. Moshe Arens, differs from that of the generals. He sees the issue in terms of the impact of the cancellation of the Lavi project on Israeli industry and this country's

relations with America. The minister could, however, find himself under increased pressure from the military to reconsider — especially since the Americans no longer object to the Lavi money being used for other military purposes.

"THEY GAVE US the money not because they wanted us to build an aircraft, but because we convinced them that we needed to," a senior officer said earlier this week. "Their purpose is that Israel should be able to do what it considers necessary for its defence, not build a plane at crippling cost to our overall defence capabilities. Because of this, there will be no American opposition if we scrub the project. In fact, they'll understand, because they appreciate economic logic, and they do this kind of thing all the time. They may even respect us for it."

The battle for the Lavi is far from over.

As far as the Defence Ministry and Israel Aircraft Industries are concerned, with \$1 billion already having been spent on development the point of no return has been reached. Prototype No. 1 will take to the air in September, and Rabin last month gave his approval for the initiation of the production schedule for between 24 and 30 of the planes a year at a cost of \$550m.

The men in uniform who want the Lavi shot down are not convinced that the battle has been lost. One thing is certain: they don't intend to give up the fight.



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02-02-724

Attention U.S. Voters

A consular officer will register U.S. citizens who wish to participate in the 1986 Congressional Elections this fall, and record requests for absentee ballots, at the following locations:

BEERSHEBA February 4: 4-6 p.m., at the A.A.C.I. office, 7 Miklat Hei St. (corner Ye'elim and Aliya Streets).

REHOVOT February 19: 4-6 p.m., at Beit Gordon, Levin-Epstein St.

NETANYA

March 4: 4-6 p.m., at the A.A.C.I. office, 28 Shmuel Hanatziv Street. Voters may also register at the American Embassy, Consular Section, 71 Hayarkon Street, Tel Aviv; the American Consulate General, Nablus Road, Jerusalem, and the Consulate Agency at 37 Ha'azma'ut Street, Haifa. Please bring your passport with you.

02-02-724

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Wednesday, Feb. 5:

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In his song-packed programme
"The Old Gang's Gone," and folksongs

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I GATHER that prior to the impassioned appeal by World Jewish Congress President Edgar Bronfman in Jerusalem to include the Soviets in the Middle East diplomatic process, he was on the line to the Kremlin office of someone fairly close to Soviet Communist Party Secretary-General Mikhail Gorbachev, if not the big man himself, from his penthouse suite of the Jerusalem Hilton Hotel. The Hilton phone exchange operators were really excited about making a connection between such august personages. Not bad for the whisky-oil tycoon who goes to lengths to deny he ever served as a link between Gorbachev and Prime Minister Shimon Peres. Even if nothing happens diplomatically, at least Bronfman is ensured of a much warmer welcome on his next trip to Moscow, likely in March.

PERES's memory of his triumphant European tour should keep him warm as he returns home to some cold blasts from left and right raised by the fruitless dash to Cairo by Minister-without-Portfolio Ezer Weizman and the director-general of the Prime Minister's Office Avraham Tamir. Returning empty-handed after leaking upbeat predictions to the press about impending summitry with President Hosni Mubarak they met a chorus of "was your journey really necessary?" from CRM's MK Yossi Sarid to Tehiya MK Geula (La Passonara) Cohen.

Cohen spoke sneeringly of "Ezer don Quixote and Avraham Sancho Panza," and promptly tabled a no-confidence motion as a welcome-home gift for Peres. Inside Lohour they're saying Weizman should not have let Tamir rush him

into the pointless journey. Even dovish circles are wondering whether Mubarak is the Rais in name only and can't deliver a summit even if he wanted. Many around Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir are pleased that the Weizman-Tamir team got its comeuppance. They're scoffing that no one will henceforth say that Tamir has more friends in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry than in the one run from Jerusalem by director-general David Kimche.

Peres's media counsellor Uri Savir was busy throughout the trip denying secret meetings with a galaxy of VIPs including King Hussein, Mubarak and diverse Soviet bigwigs, who all happened to be in the vicinity. For many the point of Peres's journey was the landing of an IAF plane bearing the prime minister of the Jewish State at Bergen Belsen, a monument to Jewish powerlessness, where 40 years later, he was greeted by a German military guard of honour.

The British had a let's-be-nice-to-Peres-week. But despite Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's "I do admire you," the moment he flew off, the newly appointed number two in the Foreign Office Lynda Chalker, took pains to reiterate no changes in Whitehall's arms boycott policy.

Peres didn't commit a single faux pas, not even at a luncheon in Kensington Palace. That occasion will earn a niche in the history books if only for the first, one-word Hebrew lesson given to future King William the Fifth, the firstborn of Prince Charles and Princess Diana, who learned to pronounce "Shalom." His teacher was Mimi Avner, wife of our ambassador in London.

Shalom, Tovarich



Raya Jaglom



Princess Diana



Mikhail Gorbachev

PUBLIC FACES/Mark Segal

Peres brought two apt gifts - an ancient Roman coin bearing the likeness of the goddess Diana for the Princess of Wales, and an antique horse sculpture for the prince. The latter presented Peres with two biographies, one of the poet, T.S. Eliot, and another about his late great-uncle Lord Mountbatten of Burma, a victim of IRA assassins. Among the guests was writer Lady Antonia Fraser, wife of playwright Harold Pinter.

I gather Peres and his entourage became slightly tired of the different forms of fish served at their formal meals by the kosher caterers brought in by Thatcher's people. Peres emulated his mentor David Ben-Gurion not only in travelling to Oxford for lunch with Sir Isaiah Berlin but in

staying at Claridge's Hotel in London. I'm told he even shook the unflappable Sir Geoffrey Howe by conveying the Israel Football Federation's plea to be admitted to European matches. When presenting the foreign secretary with a 9th century BCE oil lamp, Peres quipped: "As you see, we don't impose oil embargoes."

Peres benefited from the press exposure earned by Thatcher coping with her cabinet crisis, all of whose protagonists turned up at Peres's reception at Claridge's: like Michael Heseltine, and Leon Brittan, plus Thatcher's great adversary, Ted Heath. When Peres promised to show her round the Knesset when she visits, Thatcher said: "I'll never copy your proportional elections or your coalitions." Interestingly at her dinner party for Peres, she invited mainly Jewish politicians and even the invited chairman was Bishop Hugh Montefiore of Birmingham, (converted grandnephew of Sir Moses Montefiore).

AS ISRAEL joined in America's mourning over the deaths of the Challenger astronauts, there's talk of an Israeli joining a future Nasa space flight. It's even rumoured that Israel Aviation Industries head David Ivri, former commander of the IAF, would volunteer if allowed.

IN HERUT, they're saying the mouth may have been of Dr. Benjamin Ze'ev Begin but the voice was definitely that of his father,

Menachem Begin, when the younger Begin publicly aired his animosity towards Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon, on the television talk show, *Moked*. The debate going on now is whether the idea to put Begin Jr. up front was that of Deputy Foreign Minister Ronni Milo or of MK Dan Meridor, who liaised between Begin Sr. and Shamir. I'm waiting to hear from Arlik.

SHORTLY BEFORE leaving, Dr. Henry Kissinger was tendered an opportunity by President Chaim Herzog to meet over lunch Israel's future leadership including government secretary Dr. Yossi Beilin, OC Central Command Aluf Ehad Barak and Herutnik Meridor.

President Herzog and his wife Aura held a luncheon to celebrate the 75th birthday of American Jewish leader Samuel Rothberg, along with other old friends - Mayor Teddy and Tamar Kollek, Hebrew University Chancellor Avraham Zena Harman, Simha and Vivienne Dinitz, Aya Diestein and Avraham Agmon. Rothberg, who built up Israel Bonds dwelt nostalgically on his long friendship with such nation-builders as David Ben-Gurion, Levi Eshkol, Golda Meir and especially Pinhas Sapir. After he reminded Teddy that he was the first person he met here in 1947, Kollek quipped: "At my age, I'm the only one left. Last week I met some Revisionists, I was the only one there to have known Ze'ev Jabotinsky."

Rothberg was presented by the

Herzogs with a finely wrought inscribed replica of the State emblem. He revealed plans to complete 25 years' work for Israel Bonds with a gala dinner in New York in June marking Ben-Gurion's centenary with such speakers as Premier Peres, Walter Annenberg and Baron Edmond de Rothschild.

IT WAS only natural that Edgar Bronfman should get the Jerusalem Hilton's King Saul Suite, for it is the monarch of the WJC, and executive director Israel Singer his vizier? I hear of rebellion in the ranks. Delegates having paid their own way for the first time, want a say, as enunciated in a resolution tabled by organization committee heads Eric Moonman (UK), Jacques Dreyfus (France) and Munroe Abby (Canada).

WJC vice president Sol Kanev (Canada) was rather jittery after Bronfman bestowed a WJC vice-presidency with a kiss on World Wizo President Raya Jaglom at the closing banquet of the 65th Wizo conference. Earlier, he received the Rebecca Sieff award from her, along with Jewish Agency Treasurer Akiva Lewinsky and Bank Leumi chairman Ernest Japhet. He was nervous because although Bronfman had cleared with Lewinsky the installation of their first woman vice president, as appointments committee chairman, Kanev still had to get other members to accept the *fait accompli*. The main speaker, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin displayed a ready wit. Noting how late it was, he quipped: "The last time I was asked to talk after dinner at a Jewish affair was at Palm Beach. I followed Edward G. Robinson and Danny Kaye." Turning to Jaglom, he said, "Why don't you write a book on how to be elected so many times. All our politicians would buy it."

A novel feature at the conference was the first delegation of U.S. Wizo soon known as "Evelyn (Somers) and her 50 Japs." A guest of honour was Paula Gold de Leonesco, who this week inaugurated the Wizo old age home in Tel Aviv, named in her husband Alexander's memory, to which she donated \$1.5 million. World Wizo property and building department head Tamar Chorley has earned much kudos for the first appearance of the project and architect Kalman Katz for his work.

FORMER U.S. ambassador-turned-scholar Samuel Lewis and his wife Sallie once again displayed their

acting talents at a private play-reading, along with Aviva Marks and director Leonard Schach, before a group of friends at the latter's Old Jaffa mansion. This was the third successive year they held their drama circle. Previously, they had met at the ambassador's residence. A new dramatic talent revealed there was Tel Aviv Hilton Hotel general manager Peter van der Vliet. The audience included his wife, Tina, Zippora Rubens, Ofar Burla-Hadar and Rolly Kohansky. The role of gate-crasher was filled by Judy Varon of the USIS library. On this occasion Schach refused to reveal the identity of the playwright who wrote the new *Comedy for Actors*.

LISTENERS to the army radio station heard a heavily accented "Boker Tov Yisrael" greeting them. It was former U.S. vice-president Walter Mondale opening the *Good Morning Israel* programme. Mondale enjoyed Teddy Kollek's welcoming reception at the Israel Museum along with actor Eli Wallach, Pan Am chairman C.E. Acker and all the others who flew in on the airline's maiden flight from New York. Mondale met the Lewises and U.S. ambassador Thomas Pickering when being shown round the Cana'anite Gallery by museum director Martin Weyl, who praised Pickering's archeological knowledge. I do hope the Pan Am aircraft service is better than the "don't-call-me-we'll-call-you-maybe" attitude I got when seeking information at the airline's Tel Aviv office.

IT WAS spooks night at Rev. Sun Myung Moon's sponsored International Security Council seminar here, with former Likud member Rafael Eitan (who ran Arik Sharon's "parallel Mossad") mingling with retired U.S. generals and diplomats. Mind you, the Moonies can't be all that bad if they picked Armand de Borchgrave, a famous newsman who displayed oratorical brilliance, as editor of *The Washington Times*. I'm still puzzled at the presence of 15 IDF officers in uniform led by army spokesman Tal-Aluf Ephraim Lapid, but not at seeing Foreign Ministry research centre head Arye Levin with Tehiya MK Yuval Ne'eman and his foreign affairs spokesman Shaul Ramati. ISC Israel organizer, who quit the foreign service after marrying off his daughter Pinna at the embassy in Brasilia on Tisha Be'Av to Ed Cody, one of the more hostile of *The Washington Post's* staffers.

Committee of University Presidents

Israel's Universities announce:

Continuation of Registration for 1986/87 Academic Year for all Degrees and Programmes

Registration will end on Friday, February 28, 1986

Registration forms, including information booklets, may be purchased at all university bookshops, or obtained by mail as indicated below.

Inter-University Psychometric Entrance Examination

The National Institute for Testing and Evaluation administers the psychometric entrance examinations required of university candidates, several times a year. Registration for the psychometric examination is completely separate from, and not connected with, registration for any university. Results are valid for 3 academic years. Registration for the February session is closed. The next examination date for which registration is still open is March 24, 1986. The examination may be taken in Arabic, English, French, Spanish and Russian; and April 8, 1986, in Hebrew. Registration forms, together with information booklets containing examples of examination questions, are available in the various languages, at all university bookshops and branches of Steimatzky's. Registration forms for the March-April examinations must reach the institute by February 28, 1986.

Overseas Examinations

Candidates who will not be in Israel during the coming months may take the Psychometric Entrance Examination in North America, Europe, South America and South Africa. Details available from: The National Institute for Testing and Evaluation, Overseas Examinations, P.O.B. 4340, Jerusalem 91042, Tel. 02-663161. Registration for overseas examinations ends on February 15, 1986.

THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

Registration: Student Admissions Office (for matriculated students from Israel and Arab countries), Frank Sinatra Building, 2nd floor, Mount Scopus, Sunday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Tel. 02-682622/3. Overseas Students Admissions Office (foreign matriculation or academic certificate students), Goldsmith Building, 3rd floor, Mount Scopus, Sunday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Tel. 02-682626/9.

Registration forms and guides: Academic shops at Givat Ram, Mount Scopus, Ein Karem and Rehovot; the Dionon shop at Tel Aviv University, Ramat Aviv; Alpha Bell Books Ltd., 71 Allenby, Tel Aviv; Michol at the Technion, Haifa University and Ramat Hashikma, Haifa. By mail: send request with cheque for NIS 7.80, payable to Academic, P.O.B. 41, Jerusalem 91004.

Notes: Candidates registering with the Overseas Students Admissions Office may obtain special forms in English, French or Spanish from Academic shops only, or by mail from these shops. Present or former students who wish to change school/faculty, and students wishing to change their field of study to one of the following: psychology, business administration, accountancy, education, geography, any department in the Faculty of Science or a field available at the Faculty of Medicine, must register with the Student Admissions Office by February 28, 1986. Candidates for the Faculty of Law, the School of Medicine, the School of Pharmacy, the School of Occupational Therapy, the Faculty of Dentistry, the School of Veterinary Medicine, the School of Social Work, the Department of Computer Science and the non-departmental studies must take the psychometric examination not later than the April session. Notice of opening of registration for the pre-academic preparatory course (*Meichrim*) will be published separately. Accommodation - the University can supply accommodation for most students who apply for it. (Details in registration guide.) Scholarships - Freshmen may be awarded scholarships on the basis of their admission data. (Details in registration guide.) For detailed list of departments, see registration guide.

Registration for Medicine, Architecture and Landscape Architecture ends March 14, 1986. Registration for all other faculties continues until May 30, 1986, and for candidates with an academic background, until August 15, 1986.

Notes: Candidates for Medicine, Architecture and Landscape Architecture must take the psychometric examination not later than the April session.

TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY

Registration: Registration and Admissions Department, 25 Klachin Street, Ramat Aviv, Tel Aviv. Room 3 on Sun. Mon., Wed., Thur., 9 a.m.-12 noon and Tue. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Tel. 03-420531, 420317, 420152.

Registration forms and guides: The Dionon shop in the basement of the Music Academy Building, University campus, Ramat Aviv. By mail: Will be sent on receipt of request, with postal order for NIS 7.80 (registered mail), payable to Dionon Publishing House, P.O.B. 95286, Ramat Aviv, Tel Aviv 51392.

Notes: Students wishing to add and/or change departments must also register by the above date. 12th Grade High School students (not including *stajim*) may not register now but they may take the entrance examinations. Details in the registration guide. Candidates for law, engineering, medicine, communications disorders, physiotherapy, and occupational therapy must take the psychometric examination not later than the April session. Registration for second degree and further studies, excluding psychology, will end at a later date. For detailed list of departments - see Registration Guide.

Midreshet Feinberg of the

WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

Registration: Midreshet Feinberg, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Sunday - Thursday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. and Friday, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Tel. 04-240324/5/6.

Registration forms and guides: Steimatzky shops at Haifa University and large towns. By mail: Will be sent on receipt of cheque for NIS 7.80, payable to Steimatzky, University of Haifa, Haifa 31999. Candidates for M.A. and Ph.D. degrees should purchase envelopes marked M.A. (X.22) in red.

Notes: There are study programmes leading to Master's (M.Sc.) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degrees, and a direct Ph.D. stream for holders of Bachelor degrees. Registration for Master's degrees and Direct Doctoral studies ends July 15, 1986. Registration for Ph.D. degrees continues throughout the academic year.

UNIVERSITY OF BAIFA

Registration: Main Building, Room 776, Sunday - Thursday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Tel. 04-240324/5/6.

Registration forms and guides: Steimatzky shops at Haifa University and large towns. By mail: Will be sent on receipt of cheque for NIS 7.80, payable to Steimatzky, University of Haifa, Haifa 31999. Candidates for M.A. and Ph.D. degrees should purchase envelopes marked M.A. (X.22) in red.

Notes: Haifa University students wishing to change departments of study must obtain registration forms from the University post office, and must register during the above times at the registration office.

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Registration: Records Section, Tzuryahu Campus, Room 10, Mon - Thur., 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Tel. 057-661210/8.

Registration forms and guides: Steimatzky shops at Ben-Gurion University and large towns. By mail: Will be sent on receipt of a cheque for NIS 7.80 payable to Steimatzky, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, P.O.B. 853, Beer-Sheva 84105. Application must state sphere of study, and whether for first or higher degree.

Notes: Candidates for the School of Medicine and the Physiotherapy and Nursing Departments of the Recanati School must take the psychometric examination not later than the April session.

Registration of graduates for the Faculties of Arts and Social Sciences will end March 31, 1986.

BAR-ILAN UNIVERSITY

Registration: Student Admissions Office, Hamigdal Building, ground floor, Sun., Mon., Wed., Thur., 9 a.m.-12 noon and Tue., 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Tel. 03-718520/6. Buses: from Tel Aviv - 45, 64, 66, 69, 70; from Rehovot and Rishon LeZion - 164; from Holon and Bat Yam - 43; from Petah Tikva - 87, 164; from Jerusalem - 400.

Registration forms and guides: For first and second degrees - Students' Association Building, ground floor; Steimatzky bookshops in large towns. For Ph.D. degree - Ph.D. Degree Committee Offices, Hamigdal Building, 2nd floor. Tel. 03-718458. By mail - send a postal order for NIS 7.80, payable to Bar-Ilan University, c/o Registration Administration, Bar-Ilan University, Ramat Gan 52100. Mark envelope "For Registration Forms".

Notes: Registration for higher degrees will end later - date to be announced. Dates and procedures for registration given above apply also to present and former students wishing to change their department of study. Such requests are processed by the Student Admissions Office, Candidates for the Faculty of Law, the School of Social Work, the School of Education - counselling and special education specialists - and candidates for mathematics, statistics and computer sciences must take the psychometric examination not later than the April session. Those wishing to register after February 28, 1986, should apply in person to the office of registration.

University Extensions: Ashdod Extension, Tel. 051-37225. Safed Extension, Tel. 069-30055. Eilat-Hadran Extension, Tel. 067-51214/5.

TECHNION

Diploma (first degree) studies: Registration forms and guides at Michol, Technion City, Haifa. Tel. 04-223454, or Technion External Studies in Tel Aviv, 14 Lissin Street (corner of Herta), Tel. 03-268125/7, and also at Steimatzky bookshops in large towns. By mail: Will be sent on receipt of payment slips for NIS 7.80, credited to account no. 181919 Post Office Bank; send to Michol, Technion City, Haifa 22050.

Further details - Admissions Office for Diploma Studies, Room 214, Uman Building, Technion City, Sun - Thur 9 a.m.-1 p.m. or Tel. 04-223259.

Graduate studies (second and third degrees): Details and forms - Office of the School of Graduate Studies, Senate House, Technion City or Tel. 04-292739.

DR. NAHUM GOLDMANN must be gazing down in envy, from wherever he may now be in the world beyond, at his successor-but-one as president of the World Jewish Congress, Edgar Bronfman. For the latter, unlike Goldmann, has been and will continue to be officially invited to Moscow, Bronfman meetings in the Kremlin, seen in historical perspective, highlight the hollowness of Goldmann's diplomatic pretensions. Moreover, the third WJC president has not had to become a fellow traveller, like the first, in order to converse about Soviet Jewish rights with the masters of the Kremlin.

Being one of the 100 wealthiest men in the world has opened doors to Bronfman that had remained closed until Goldmann's death. As ruler of the Seagram empire, with holdings ranging from natural gas and oil to a sizeable chunk of the DuPont de Nemours Chemicals Multinational, Edgar Bronfman was rightfully awarded near royal treatment in Moscow. Whether that will help ameliorate the lot of more than a handful of the Kremlin's Jewish subjects remains uncertain. But that fact that an official Jewish spokesman has been talking *tactis* with top officials of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee is of unmatched historic significance.

To interview Edgar Bronfman one enters the confines of a court. One is ushered into the presence of the magnate, who sits surrounded by retainers. He amply justifies F. Scott Fitzgerald's observation to Ernest Hemingway that "the rich are different...". After all, no ordinary mortal imprints his own autographed landmark skyscraper on the Manhattan skyline as Bronfman did - well before his 56th birthday - with the Seagram Building.

Only a Bronfman could have had the chutzpah to turn down an invitation to an audience with the pope. I do believe he advised the Holy See that he would be unavailable until they officially recognized the Jewish state. But, as he told me, "Of course I'd like to go there. But I won't go like all the others, just to have my picture taken with the pope and have him mouth pious sentiments about anti-Semitism. We must never forget that the Vatican is not only a church but a state... Some people speak a lot about the changes made by the Church in its attitude to Jews. But 20 years after that declaration, we have to wonder what millions of Catholics really think, after the Vatican refuses to recognize the State of Israel."

Having been advised by his assistants of the role Bronfman had played in prodding Spanish Premier Felipe Gonzalez to establish formal ties with Israel, I further learned that he had been asked to fly to the Hague for the Spanish leader's meeting with premier Peres. "Yes," he confirmed, "it was suggested that I should join them. But I turned down the idea. I'm not the type to grandstand."

TALKING OF his missions to Moscow, I wondered at the timing of their invitations. He had no explana-

The capitalist crusader

MARK SEGAL



Edgar Bronfman

(Hart)

tion on hand, but he could guess: "I suppose, from their standpoint, we can do business together. We can be useful to each other."

The WJC president did confirm to me his dissatisfaction that the Soviets had not delivered what they had promised him in their Kremlin conversations. Yet, he hedged his comment, there is still yet time for them to act as promised. He is not unduly worried, because he regards what he had done as the commencement of a process. "As I've said before, one of the problems in dealing with the Russians is to meet them frequently in order to build up their trust in you. That requires patience. We have to realize what's going on in Russia right now, to afford us the right perspective. Their bureaucracy is in a more of a shambles than ever. Gorbachev is acting in great haste to revamp the structure. One of them explained to me that when we read of the removal of someone at the top, we cannot know how many underlings he takes with him..."

Bronfman dwelt on the ensuing complications in dealing with the Soviet hierarchy: "No one seems to be left to deal with, in the area we're interested in. We can expect more changes between now and the party congress next month, with Gorbachev largely concentrating on that deadline. Unlike his predecessors, he's more deeply concerned with the economy. He's been known to say that 'If we don't do something drastic about the economy we'll enter the 21st century being unable to compete with the rest of the world.'"

I think I touched on an exposed nerve when raising the questions swirling throughout the Jewish world over whether the Soviets deliberately misinformed Bronfman on the prospects of a more relaxed treatment of their Jewish minority. There was no apologetic tone in his remarks: "I think it would be a mistake to say that my initiative has so far not brought anything forward. Yes, there has perhaps been disinformation by the Russians about the outcome. But then, anyone who even entertained too many high expectations from my meetings would be building on false premises. But that does not mean things won't differ in the future."

The WJC president sees his efforts within the context of a drawn-out process, the same as the broader U.S.-Soviet relationship. "It is un-

realistic to expect the Jewish issue to proceed at a much different pace than East-West relations," he cautioned.

There is the assumption that Jews are hostages of U.S.-Soviet relations. I do think we'll have to write a bit to see any outcome of those negotiations. Although I hesitate to employ the parallel - just as Arafat claims that if he should recognize Israel, he would lose his last card - so the Russians, it would seem, fear that once they let the last Jews out they won't have any more cards in their hand. They seem to be arguing that they won't have any more leverage.

WITH THE solid phalanx of courtiers daring hardly to breathe lest they disturb their chief's flow of thought, Bronfman launched into a favourite theme. "We must drive home that we're only interested in being pro-Jewish, we have no wish to be anti-Soviet in any way. It has always been bad for Jews to be in the forefront of the cold war; it's always been good for Jews to fight for détente. However, that anti-Jewish conduct of the Soviets brings Jews throughout the world to the forefront of the anti-Soviet crusade. If the Soviets should improve their policy, that would undoubtedly radically alter the attitude of Jews everywhere," he said. After enunciating the theme he had driven home time and again to his Soviet interlocutors, he confessed: "I don't fully know whether our pleas fell on deaf ears or not."

He had reiterated what he had to in order to give credibility to the cause he represents. He was speaking for three basic principles, not favours to be begged, but fundamental human rights: "The prisoners of Zion should be set free; all Jews so wishing should be allowed to go to Israel; and those who wish to stay in the Soviet Union should be able to do so as Jews, free to practise their religion and educate according to their tradition. In short - the motto should be 'Let my people go, and let my people live as Jews and first class citizens.'"

However, he added, "Should the Soviets consider that all Jews intend leaving, then that would put Soviet Jews into a Catch-22 situation; for then the better schools would be closed to them and they would lack the kind of training to accord them good jobs."

Is he planning a further mission to Moscow in the near future? Bronfman: "There are no set dates, but hopefully I'll be back there in March once the party congress is over. At present we're not sure with whom we have to deal. There are conflicting reports even about the fate of the people we met with lately. My most durable contact has been with the Soviet ambassador in Washington, Anatoly Dobrynin."

The WJC president confirmed that the issue of Israel and the Middle East came up in his exchanges with the Soviets. Did he encounter sharp hostility at the mention of Israel? Bronfman explained patiently that there are two phases when talking with such people. First the official line for the record, churning out the usual phrases about the Palestinians and the PLO. But once that was out of the way, the hostility faded. The Russians then dwell on how proud they remain at having been among the first to recognize the Jewish state in 1948. There was certainly no antagonism towards the existence of Israel.

Bronfman recently returned to Moscow as part of a high-powered U.S. trade delegation led by the U.S. secretary of commerce. During their meeting at the Kremlin, Bronfman made his way to V.M. Alexandrov, a long-serving economic adviser to successive Soviet leaders - a kind of Russian Bernard Baruch - in order to hand him a letter to convey personally to Gorbachev. Alexandrov, in fluent English, told him a current Moscow anti-Semitic joke: "One Jew-baiter says to the other: 'There's a Jew down the street, let's beat him up.' The other replies: 'But he's strong. Why give him the chance to beat us up?' Whether the Soviet official wished Bronfman to read other meanings into the story, he is still unsure."

During that top-level meeting, Bronfman said, statements were delivered by the Soviet and American spokesmen which, if rendered in shorthand, would be: "The Russians deny any linkage between trade and human rights; to which the Americans reply, 'rubbish'." He explained that, in matters of trade, there is little the Americans want from the Russians. It is also known that the U.S. regards the Soviet bid to get "most favoured nation" trade privileges as linked to general human rights issues, including Jewish rights. The WJC president dismissed reports of the impending exit of 50,000 Jews from Russia as unrealistic. However, he is hopeful there will be movement from the present nadir: "We're so low now, it must go up; with flights via Bucharest or Warsaw rather than Vienna."

A parting question: Where does he stand between those who favour quiet diplomacy or noisy agitation in the struggle for Soviet Jewry? Bronfman is for both, considering a two-track approach best: pressure and protests can only help the work he is doing. Does protest get through the Kremlin's walls? "It most certainly does. They are receptive to moral pressure. They have huge files tabulating all the protests on Soviet Jewry the world over."

BELIEVE IT or not, while in Israel last week, Dr. Henry Kissinger criticized himself.

In a close circle, he blamed himself for not pressing Israel in 1974 to concede to King Hussein's demand for a disengagement of forces between the IDF and the Jordanian army.

The former secretary of state may feel this burden, but his self-criticism is also an indirect criticism of Israel's policy towards Jordan, and may unintentionally throw a shadow over Israeli-Jordanian relations in general.

This is not the first time that Dr. Kissinger has accused himself of not being rigid enough with Israel on the eve of the 1974 Rabat Conference. He voiced the same accusation in his book of memoirs, *Years of Upheaval*. He repeated it once at a farewell party at the Israeli Embassy. But all these repetitions do not make the wrong assumption right.

AS A MATTER OF FACT, contrary to the conventional assumption that the Jericho corridor formula was first suggested by Yigal Allon, then foreign minister in Yitzhak Rabin's cabinet, the idea of a corridor was first put on the agenda of King Hussein by Golda Meir at their meeting in March 1974. Golda Meir submitted to the king a proposal to establish a corridor which would provide Jordan with a direct link to the Ramallah region. The discussion was in general terms, replying to King Hussein's request for an offer on the lines of the disengagement agreement which was signed in January with Sadat, and the name of Jericho was not mentioned. The king had asked whether he should have opened another front in the October war against Israel to be entitled to a disengagement agreement. Golda Meir replied that although she was bound by a coalition agreement to go to the polls on any withdrawal from Judea and Samaria, she was ready to call for new elections, to let the people decide whether to accept her idea about a partial withdrawal in a form of a corridor.

King Hussein turned down this suggestion, demanding an agreement patterned after the one reached with President Sadat, mean-

Correcting Kissinger

MOSHE ZAK

ing a vertical withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Jordan river. Golda Meir's explanations that even the disengagement agreement with Sadat was not vertical and did not delineate new lines along the whole border were in vain. Hussein was adamant. One may remind Dr. Kissinger that this was reported to him in April 1974, when he himself defined the differences between vertical and horizontal withdrawals.

FOLLOWING the resignation of Golda Meir, a new cabinet was formed in Israel and a new president installed in the White House. During Prime Minister Rabin's visit to Washington in 1974, President Ford requested, on the advice of Dr. Kissinger, that Israel render some concession to Jordan. The idea of a disengagement agreement was again raised. It was formulated then by Yigal Allon as the Jericho corridor but King Hussein turned it down in the autumn of 1974 as he had earlier that spring. He demanded a ten-kilometre wide withdrawal from the Jordan river, which would have completely undermined the Allon plan, the security of which was based on Israeli settlements in the Jordan Valley.

After the Rabat Arab Summit meeting, in which the Arab leaders deprived Hussein of his right to represent the Palestinians and named the PLO as their sole legitimate representative King Hussein voiced his anger. In his meeting with Israeli leaders, he accused them of bringing about this outcome through their refusal to make concessions. The king managed to sell this notion to the Americans, and it has by now become the common view that Israeli rigidity on the eve of the



Dr. K... 'no basis for self-criticism' (Rabbanan Yisraeli)

Rabat conference closed the Jordanian option.

THE OPTION was not shut at Rabat. Only recently, the king was negotiating with the U.S. regarding a joint Jordan-Palestinian delegation for the settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute. Moreover, it was not King Hussein's inability to extract concessions from Israel on the eve of the Rabat Conference which deprived him of the right to represent the Palestinians. Rather, it was Sadat's maneuvering which caused this change at the Arab summit.

Looking back on developments since then in the Israeli-Egyptian-Jordanian triangle, one cannot escape from the conclusion that in 1974 President Sadat feared that Israeli-Jordanian negotiations on a disengagement agreement were so complex that they might complicate matters in the Middle East and hinder his own efforts to expedite the return of Sinai to Egypt.

ONLY RECENTLY I had the opportunity to discuss this thesis with a high ranking American who participated in these Middle Eastern negotiations, including the discussions in Akaba with King Hussein about the various options of the corridor across the Jordan. This highly-placed American confirmed that in the summer of 1974 Sadat was pressing the United States to mediate between Israel and Egypt regarding the second stage of the withdrawal from Sinai simultaneously with the Jordan-Israeli negotiations. Sadat was eager to push the American mediation forward and he may have thought that the exclusion of the Jordanian options from the Israeli diplomatic endeavour might strengthen the trend among the Israelis to prefer the Egyptian option. So, despite the fact that Sadat promised Hussein at Alexandria to support him at the conference vis-a-vis the PLO he abandoned him by voting against the right of Hussein to represent the Palestinians. The only option which was left to Israel therefore, was to negotiate an interim agreement in Sinai, which was finally signed in September 1975.

DR. KISSINGER has no basis for self-criticism. King Hussein was not let down by the Israelis in 1974. He was let down by Sadat, who was striving for an Egyptian-Israeli agreement which would secure his sovereignty over all of Sinai. For this reason he objected in October 1977 to the reconvening of the Geneva Conference in accordance with the American-Soviet agreement.

He begged President Carter not to proceed in that direction because it might have jeopardized the direct Israeli-Egyptian negotiations and American mediation.

Sadat pursued the same line at Camp David, when he refused to agree to Hussein's request to join the negotiations.

The common denominator in this long list of "incidents" is Sadat's desire to have the Egyptian national aspirations fulfilled first, and only later to deal with other Arab problems. It was neither Israeli obstinacy nor American error which caused the loss of King Hussein's right to represent the Palestinians. It was, however, the joint stand of Israel and the United States not to conduct negotiations with the PLO which has recently brought the Palestinians back into King Hussein's fold.

The writer is former editor of Ma'ariv.

SYMPATHY WITH THE SPANIARDS

HAIM SHAPIRO

WHATEVER WRONGS the Spaniards may have done to the Jewish people, in the 15th century, the time has come to consider instead the positive aspects of our mutual history and to look to the future.

This was the message of two noted theological scholars in very different fields, Rabbi David Haim Halevy, Sephardi chief rabbi of Tel Aviv, and Prof. David Flusser, Israel's leading expert on church history. Both Flusser, who was born in Vienna, and Halevy, whose parents came from Turkey, claim descent from the Jews of Spain and each in his own way feels a great fascination and attraction for Spain.

It is often claimed that a *herem* (excommunication) was imposed upon any Jew visiting Spain, the scene of some of Judaism's greatest achievements and some of the Jewish people's most ignominious suffering. But Halevy flatly denies this.

"If there is such an excommunication, I have never found it," he says. Rather, there was a ban on the Marranos, the crypto-Jews who remained in Spain after the expulsion in 1492, and who subsequently escaped to England, not to return to Spain. This very limited ban, however, is very different from a *herem*.

And there were feelings of bitterness. Halevy relates that Rabbi Ya'acov Toledano, the late Sephardi chief rabbi of Tel Aviv and minister of religious affairs, told him that Toledano's family had come from Toledo, but that the extra syllable in his name had been added because the family did not want to carry the name of the city which had rejected them.

Yet despite this, and Halevy cannot say exactly why, there is an intense nostalgia for the country. He himself visited Spain twice on private visits and wherever he went, in towns or villages, there was never an unpleasant feeling.

Like others, Halevy often met those who told him that their ancestors had been Jews. True, he admit-

ted, none of them showed any desire to return to the ancient faith of their fathers; but this did not worry him.

"There is no need to run after them, they'll come of their own accord," he said.

But he has less tolerance for the Jews who make up the present Jewish community of Spain. "Why exchange one Diaspora for another?" he told the small congregation of 10 Jewish families, all from Spanish Morocco, in Seville.

Halevy feels that the Spaniards have the expulsion on their conscience. He himself has encountered people who came up to him on the street and, asking if he was Jewish, told him of their great love for Israel and the Jewish people, because of the wrongs done hundreds of years ago.

FOR FLUSSER, who has lectured at Spanish universities - indeed, he believes he was the first unbaptized Jew to have done so - there seems to be a natural sympathy in Spain for the Jews; one that even surpasses what one would expect from the common history of the two peoples.

True, he admits, at least part of the Spanish Church is still steeped in the Middle Ages; but the church is not as strong as it appears to be the outsider, he maintains. Indeed, he adds, some of the most sought after church publications in Spain are those issued by the Centre for Jewish-Christian studies, which outline ways of celebrating Christian holidays, taking Jewish customs into consideration.

True, he adds, there were twice great outbreaks of anti-Jewish outrages, during the period of the conversion of the Visigoths to Catholicism in the sixth and seventh centuries and again during the expulsion and afterwards. The Spanish Inquisition was a special local variety, far more ruthless than that seen elsewhere.

But little of this is recalled by the Spaniard. The name Torquemada is far better known among Jews than among non-Jews; and when the Spa-

niards think about Jews, it is in the context of recalling the glorious episodes in their own history. "I have never met a Spaniard," Flusser remarks wryly, "who would justify the Inquisition."

WITH ALL this, there is the danger in Spain, as in the rest of Europe, of forces on the left accepting anti-Jewish elements along with anti-Zionist feelings. But, he adds, if we build upon the very real connection that exists between Spain and the Jews, we can open up a more natural link between the Jews and Europe in general.

Like Halevy, Flusser feels a sympathy and "harmony" with the Spanish people.

The best way to overcome the past suffering, he says, is for both people to remember the positive and the negative. "We have to say to them not to forget, not because we want to cause a trauma, but to overcome the past and to find a new glorious future for the betterment of mankind."

Perhaps the best practical example of this comes from Halevy: it occurred not in Spain, but in Colombia.

Sitting in a cafe one evening with members of the local Jewish community, he saw a man wearing clerical collar walk in. "Ah," said his hosts to the priest, "here is a colleague of yours."

The priest was introduced to Halevy by the family name of Karo whereupon the rabbi explained to the priest that he was not only a descendant of Jews, but of the family of an eminent Jewish scholar, Rabbi Yosef Karo, compiler of the *Shulchan Aruch*.

At this point, Halevy continued the priest became pale, rose and fled from the room. Later, the Jews told the rabbi that the priest was a notorious anti-Semite, who every week would preach against the Jews. But from that day on, the Jews of the community told him, he never mentioned the subject again.

tried and sentenced; and it was clear the Egyptians did not intend holding any inquiry at all. Egypt, it was said, would send a "report" of the trial, and subsequently this was transmitted into a transcript of the actual proceedings in court.

Approximately at this point the Israeli cabinet, in an attempt to save face, included a demand for a report on Ras Burka as part of its package of resolutions.

ON WEIZMAN's return from Cairo Bassiouny made an astonishing statement. He was quoted by Israel Radio as saying that relations between Israel and Egypt had deteriorated to a dangerous level. The reason, he said, was the continued criticism in Israel on the Ras Burka case.

So that is it. Relations did not deteriorate over the unbridled anti-Israel and anti-Semitic propaganda (or indeed over Egypt's wholesale violation of the peace treaty). No, over the brutal murder by an Egyptian of seven unoffending Israelis - an undoubted result of that propaganda, nor when the Egyptian president contemptuously brushed the murder aside as a minor incident. They did not deteriorate because of men guilty of forcibly preventing aid for the five bleeding victims but their action in effect condoned the Egyptian government.

They deteriorated only because the people of Israel continued to object to the contemptuous cheapening of Jewish blood.

But, Bassiouny said, Weizman visit to Cairo had averted the "danger." How did he do it?

We do not need Bassiouny to tell us that Weizman, accommodate himself to the Egyptian view; and that it was to appease the Egyptian "anger" that he went to Cairo. He obviously promised Mubarak that only a transcript of the proceeding at the trial of the one murderer would be sent to Peres. Israel would stoically baffle Egypt about the deliberate slaughter at Ras Burka.

THIS IS not mere appeasement. This is infamy. Is our nation compelled to tolerate it?

Insult from Cairo

SHMUEL KATZ

Bank," to negotiations with Hussein, yes, to peace with Jordan.

If there are some whose memory is too short and who decline to believe that this naked nonsense was the official "rationale" for policy, let them go back to the newspapers or transcripts of broadcasts during the few months before that marathon cabinet meeting.

THE SCENARIO was an exercise in fatuity from the beginning. Its trumpeters never bothered to explain (even to themselves) how an agreement with Egypt over Tabu on Sinai's border was to be transmitted into negotiations over the future of Eretz Yisrael. Such negotiations, Hussein has laid down, will take place only with PLO participation and in an international framework which must include the USSR. Peres, for his part, has been searching feverishly for a formula that will meet these requirements. He is prepared to meet Palestinian Arabs who have been merely approved by Arafat; and he agrees to an international forum, including, in principle, the Soviet Union. That Tabu had any relevance to the endless pursuit of Hussein was, at best, an uninterpreted pipe-dream.

Mubarak, on arriving in Europe this week, made haste to assure the world that negotiations must include the PLO and the Soviets.

NOW THE Tabu bubble has burst. There was no happy reception in Cairo. Nobody there showed any sign of ever having heard of an agreement with Israel to combine arbitration over Tabu with Egypt's fulfillment of the peace treaty. On the contrary, the only coherent Egyptian response was that various "other problems" had to be solved first. One of the problems mentioned was the "Palestinian people." No less. And for Peres, the most

resounding blow of all: the longed-for boon of a meeting with Mubarak was not being considered.

WHAT WAS the reaction in the government to the outrageous behaviour of the Egyptians? Last weekend three of its members, Gad Ya'acobi, Moshe Shabai and Mordecai Gur, who were interviewed on radio, did not even mention it. No doubt they were in a state of such shock that they had developed amnesia, forgot everything they and their leader had said over the months, forgot the report that had been presented to them, forgot why they had sat a whole night, forgot indeed the drama in which they had played a part. There they were, with Egyptian spite on their - and our - faces, pretending that nothing had happened, until after a few days of silent shame, Ezer Weizman, since 1977 Egypt's loyal friend and advocate at the Israeli court, came to the rescue.

Wiping the spit off, he begged an invitation to Cairo, to plead with Mubarak. The main purpose of his thus accepting humiliation and contempt on Israel's behalf was evidently to avert the evil decree: that no meeting between Peres and Mubarak was in sight.

Whether Weizman's visit to Cairo, which violated at least the spirit of the cabinet's meeting, was authorized by the government was not made public.

WEIZMAN returned from Cairo empty-handed. He was not promised a meeting for Peres with Mubarak. He was not given an acceptance by Egypt of the terms of the cabinet's resolutions. Nor did the Egyptians promise to fulfil the peace treaty. They had never had any intention of doing so.

He did, however, apparently succeed in another of his endeavours: to

convince his Egyptian friends that the Israeli government is prepared to cooperate with the Egyptian government in sweeping the crime of Ras Burka under the carpet.

As Weizman's objective - and that of at least the Labour component of the government - is to prevent the Ras Burka "incident" from "bedeviling" relations with Egypt, and as that event recedes into the past under growing layers of evasion and equivocation in Jerusalem, it is essential now to set out all the facts and implications. Especially in the light of the statement made on Tuesday, after Weizman's return from Cairo, by Mohammed Bassiouny, Cairo's diplomatic representative in Tel Aviv.

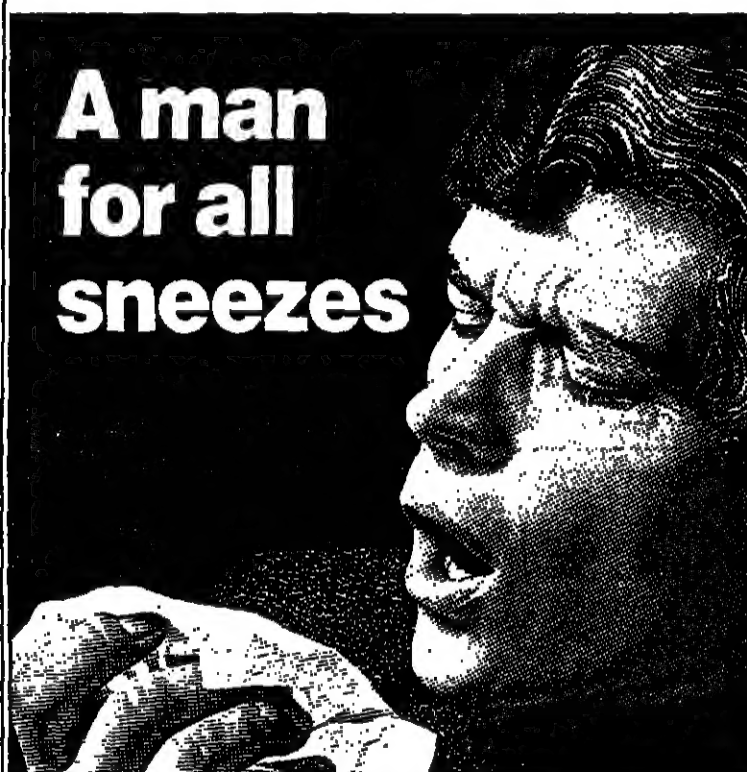
When the gruesome sequence of events at Ras Burka became known from the testimony of the many witnesses, the government's first declaration of duty was its failure to declare to Cairo that the explanation for that horror was the poisoning of the minds of Egypt's youth against the people of Israel - by the media, and not a little by their education.

That declaration was emphasized by Mubarak's initial gut reaction to the multiple murder. It was, he said, a minor matter, the kind of thing that happened every day. The government was, however, not moved. It simply continued to ask for an "inquiry."

Then from Cairo came a promise that an inquiry would indeed be held; and Mubarak's promise that he would send the findings to Peres as soon as possible.

Any Egyptian inquiry would naturally be a farce unless it included a survey of the pervasive propaganda pumped for years into the Egyptian people, depicting Israel as evil and its people as sub-human; and unless Cairo initiated steps to put an end to this incitement.

The man who fired the shots was



A man for all sneezes

Israel is full of surprises. Generally accepted perceptions of this country and its people often clash with the way things really are. Like the classic Jewish doctor, for instance. This being the Jewish State, it would seem logical that everybody be a wealthy doctor, or at the very least, a lawyer or accountant.

Well, Israel does have the highest rate of doctors per capita in the world, but we're not all doctors, and all Israeli doctors are certainly not wealthy, nor are they all Jewish. Dr. Bishara Bisharat's distinction is not just that he is an Arab doctor tending to the Jewish people, but that he and his family live on a kibbutz - believed to be a unique situation. The members of Kibbutz Ein Dor are grateful to have a skilled, compassionate physician in their midst, and nobody really cares under which star he was born.

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What actually happened?

TORA TODAY/Pinhas Peli

My uncle Shloima, may he rest in peace, grew up in Jerusalem. He began to attend the house of study when he was three and continued to do so until he was 83, five days prior to his funeral which was attended by hundreds of black-hatted hassidim and fellow yeshiva-men. To the best of my knowledge, he left Jerusalem only once, in the early 1930s, to go to a family wedding in Jaffa. Thirty years later, stories were still circulating about the wonders of this daring excursion to far-away Jaffa. On that trip my uncle also stopped over for a short visit to the budding town of Tel Aviv, to see with his own eyes how the land of Israel was being built.

While studying at the yeshiva, my uncle married and fathered a large family. Sons and daughters were born, grew up and in time they too married and moved to live on their own, all within a radius of 20 minutes walk from Mea Shearim, where my uncle Shloima and Aunt Haye lived. Every Sabbath noon, all the married children, their spouses and offspring of all ages, would gather to relish in my aunt's delicious *chulent* and to hear my uncle's simple, but always eye-opening, comment on the Tora portion of the week.

If my uncle Shloima were asked what had actually happened at Sinai on the Sabbath when the story of the giving of the Tora on Mount Sinai was read in the synagogue, or for that matter, on any other Sabbath, he would brush away the question with a shrug. What happened? Why, of course, God descended on the mountain and handed over to Moshe Rabeinu (Moshe our Teacher) the five books of Tora, the same as I have now in front of me, leather bound, embossed with golden letters on the cover, with the Onkelos' translation and Rashi's commentary, et al.

If the very same question were put to my friend Professor H.G., he too, just like my uncle Shloima, would not hesitate to give his answer without blinking an eye. His reply though, would be a bit different. What actually happened at Sinai? Why, nothing at all—the Professor would say. The story from beginning to end is “of course, a fabricated myth.” As far as my friend the Professor is concerned, nothing of what we call Tora came down from heaven. It is all a bunch of unrelated “documents”, originating from different “sources” and from many

different times, patched together by an uncouth “redactor”.

Neither my friend the Professor nor my uncle had any problems with Tora and its origin as it is related in Exodus chapters 19 and 20. They “knew” exactly what actually happened, or did not happen, at Sinai. As for myself, and perhaps for many others, we are not so fortunate, as we could not share the absolute certainties of either of them. For us, the question remains to trouble our minds: What did actually happen at Sinai?

LOOKING INTO the classical Jewish sources we discover with some relief that the very same question occupied the minds of the greatest rabbis of all times. In no way is it a product of our modern, post-Bible-criticism era. It is an integral part of the fascination with that tremendous event in which the transcendent God is supposed to have revealed himself to mortal humans, pronouncing words which have endured to this day as the moral foundation and meaning-giving substance for a great part of the civilized world.

We know with every fibre of our being that the great event indeed took place. We experience it along with countless generations of Jews; we hear the “voice”, even “see it” in all its might and glory (Ex. 20:15) when we read the Tora. We know beyond any doubt, that something stupendous actually happened to us on our way out of slavery to freedom. The classic argument popular with medieval Jewish philosophers (starting with Saadia) “how can one deny an event witnessed by 600,000 people?” has lost some ground during modern times, but Sinai is nevertheless part of our undeniable collective Jewish personality.

And with all these, or perhaps because of all these, the question

does not stop vexing us: What actually happened at Sinai? How, or how far, did God come down onto the mountain? What was His voice like? What exactly did he say?

Those questions were indeed asked in the vast talmudic and mid-rashic literature as well by great men of faith in following generations. Not only were such questions not prohibited or discouraged, but they were considered part of re-living the experience of God's revelation in giving us the Tora, literally translated: The Teaching, that gives direction to our lives and guides our day to day conduct.

Tradition assures us that “all the souls of Israel, in all generations to come were at Sinai” and that “everything that a genuine student is to innovate was already told to Moses at Sinai”. The same tradition tries over and over again to penetrate into the mystery of the unprecedented event, being well aware at the same time that it is a “mission impossible”.

The event of *Matan Tora* served not as an end to all inquiry but on the contrary, as the beginning of an ongoing challenge. *Matan Tora* (the giving of Tora) happened once, at a certain time in history, *kabbalat ha-Tora* (the receiving of Tora) — says a great hassidic master — happens every day. Hence, the constant expounding of the concept Tora to include the oral tradition (*Tora she-ba'al peh*) in its endless ramifications from Sinai to this very day. We are unable to decipher the mystery of revelation, we are able, however, to join it. By learning Tora, by doing Tora, we share in the ongoing revelation.

On the one hand we know that Tora is *min hashamayim* (TB Sanhedrin 90a), that it was given from heaven; on the other hand, it was ruled that *Tora lo bashamayim hi* (TB Baba Metzia 59a) that it is not in heaven anymore, but given to us

to continue to weave further and expand.

Most people, myself included, would find it hard to accept either the UNSH (=Uncle Shloima) theory or the PHG (=Professor H.G.) theory, or for that matter, any other “ready made” theories regarding the question of what actually happened at Mount Sinai. We are destined to live in the tension of the undeciphered mystery, while experiencing it in the most profound existential personal way.

What actually did happen at Mount Sinai? The question will remain forever. As for the answer, we shall forever continue pondering it, forever being suspended between the innumerable possibilities advanced over the ages, between the fundamental reading regarding the descent of God on the mountain and ascent of Moses to heaven and Rabbi Yossi's (2nd century tanna) clear statement that “The Shechina (God's presence) never descended... and Moses and Elijah never ascended” (TB Sukka 5a); between the concept of God pronouncing the full text of ten commandments and much more, and the rabbinic view that only the first two words were heard directly from God, while the other eight were told to Moses who relayed them to Israel, or even the more extreme view of Maimonides (Guide 2:33) that the Israelites heard only the divine “voice” which Moses “cut” for them into words and sentences.

Says the Jerusalem Talmud (Hagiga 77a):

“The Tora is like two paths, one of sunlight, one of snow. Take one, die in the sun. Take the other one, and die in the snow. What does one do? Walk between the two.”

And Maimonides, the great rationalist philosopher says (Guide 2:33):

“Know this and remember it, for it is impossible to expound the Gathering at Mount Sinai to a greater extent, than they spoke about it, for it is one of the mysteries of the Tora. The true reality of that apprehension and modality are quite hidden from us, for nothing like it happened before and will not happen after. Know this!”

The Tora portion read this Sabbath is Yitro (Exodus 18, 1-27).

Rabbi Peli is the Becher Professor of Jewish thought and literature, Ben Gurion University of the Negev.

PRAISING FOR UNITY

CHRISTIAN COMMENT/Oikoumenikos

strong ties of friendship that have been formed among the members of this group have helped to overcome old prejudices and have given a better insight into the way of life and the faith of the others,” says Father Pixner.

The week of ecumenical services is arranged for the last full week in January, once all respective Christmas celebrations have been concluded. Beginning on Sunday and ending the following Sunday, a service is held each day at a church of a different denomination. The week began this year, as has become the custom, with a service held at St. George's, the Anglican Cathedral. In referring to the greater awareness among different denominations that there must be a readiness to change from within — and not simply look for hopeful signs of change in others — Father Pixner notes that the message

of the dean of the Anglican Cathedral, the Very Reverend David Elliot, set the tone for the week. “In joining the word ‘suitable,’ Dean Elliot gave us a word that struck home to many in this week of prayer for unity: that we must pray that our own churches become more suitable and that we must work in our own churches to break down the obstacles, many of our own making, which keep others at a distance.”

Weekend services were conducted in a most enriching variety of surroundings: the Roman Catholic St. Saviour's Church near the New Gate; the Lutheran Redeemer Church in the Old City; the Armenian Cathedral of St. James; the Cenacle on Mount Zion; the Ethiopian Orthodox Church of the Street of the Prophets; and the Syrian Orthodox Church in St. Mark's Street in the Old City.

At the concluding Sunday service at the Greek Catholic Church inside Jaffa Gate, Archbishop Lutfi Laham, the Patriarchal Vicar, delivered a resounding and joyful message. “This is the joy of knowing that the things which unite us are greater than the things which divide us.”

However, as long as the Mother Church of Jerusalem, the Greek Orthodox Church, distances herself from such ecumenical ventures, there will be a major wound in the body of the Christian churches of Jerusalem. Many are saddened by her isolation and pray deeply for her participation. In the words of Father Pixner: “The day the Mother Church will open her arms and with vision lead the other churches in a movement towards unity, a great step forward will be made in fulfilling the prayer of Christ.” In anticipation of that day Christians will continue to pray that they will be increasingly reconciled to one another and, if facing the issues honestly, will often be reminded of their hidden prejudices and fears in wider contexts beyond their own faith. As one of the prayers this week proclaimed: “Enable us to see the causes of strife; remove from us all sense of superiority. Teach us to grow in unity with all God's children.”

A prayer indeed for all Jerusalem.

MANY Christians have a strong awareness that the “holy city” of Jerusalem exposes the Christian Church to the world in all its “unholiness.” Here, in the city that provided so much of the context for the life and teachings of Christ, the discord of ecclesiastical divisions accentuates the anguish of those whose way is that the Church may be one.

What has become known as the “Week of Prayer for Christian Unity” began earlier this century and is now organized in many countries. Much has happened over the last few decades to transform and renew inter-church understanding and cooperation, especially after that non-racial watershed in church hinking.

A leading figure in the introduction of this special week of prayer to Jerusalem church life in 1971 was Father Basil Pixner of the Jurmition Abbey on Mount Zion. Over the years the week of prayer has been under the auspices of the Ecumenical Circle of Friends. Commenting on the importance of this role, Father Pixner explains that since 1971 priests, ministers and monks of the different churches have been getting together once a month to read Scripture, discuss problems of Christian faith and unity, pray together and drink a cup of tea. “The

MIAMI (Reuters). — What's left in life for a 16-year-old whizz-kid with an IQ of 190 who has graduated from college, starred in films and stage plays, written computer programmes and trained a boa constrictor?

Stephen Baccus topped his own list of achievements this month when he received his diploma from the University of Miami Law School, becoming the youngest law graduate in U.S. history.

Since Florida law will keep Baccus out of legal practice for another two years, Baccus's manager says he plans to begin marketing the boy genius for world consumption.

“Let's just say we're going to make sure this kid lives a very, very profitable life,” says Murray Baum, Baccus' hard-driving business manager and talent agent.

Baccus, who still wears braces on his teeth, will sit for the state bar examination in late February.

“No big deal,” says the slender, andy-haired 16-year-old.

He will then take off on a corporate-sponsored world tour

Whizz-kid life

By MATT SPETALNICK

aimed at capitalizing on his brains and theatrical talents.

The plan, his manager says, is to put Baccus on stage to sing, tap dance, deliver speeches on world issues and promote products ranging from computers to cameras — all in a single show.

Will people actually pay to see this act? Baum thinks so — especially, he says, after they hear the “Little Steve Baccus Story.”

Baccus, the press releases proclaim, is the “foremost contender for the title of boy wonder of the world.”

IT BEGAN when his mother, Florence, a counsellor at a Miami area high school, took on the whole school system to get her bored eight-

year-old son skipped from the fourth grade directly to the ninth.

At 12, Baccus entered New York University and ploughed through two years of courses in one year.

Already an academic celebrity, he saw his bar mitzva turned into an international media event.

A New York City policeman, Manhattan borough president Andrew Stein, declared “Stephen Baccus Day” in his honour and, in an official proclamation that raised more than a few eyebrows, trumpeted the boy's achievements as “unparalleled in 3,000 years of Jewish history.”

“Well, maybe he was exaggerating a little bit,” says the softspoken Baccus. “I'm not sure though. I haven't researched back that far.”

Soon afterward, Baccus was mugged by a gang of youths at a video game arcade, and his parents shipped him home to attend the University of Miami.

At 14, he graduated with honours and a bachelor's degree in computer science and moved on to law school.

In between his academic pursuits, Baccus found time to act in dozens of movies, commercials and off-Broadway plays.

BACCUS SAYS he enjoys all the attention, but admits to being a little uncomfortable with the “genius” label.

“I really think I'm just a regular kid who learns a little faster than other people,” Baccus says.

“What's left in life for Steven Baccus? That, too, is “no big deal.”

“After the tour, I'd like to get a master's and a doctorate in computer science,” he explains intently.

“Then I'd like to star in some movies, then practise law like my dad, maybe even get into politics. It's just so hard to decide on one thing, isn't it?”

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

HAIFA
Jerusalem
Tel Aviv
Haifa
Beer-Sheva
Eilat
Tura Partisan Yitro

JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM GREAT SYNAGOGUE, Friday, Mincha/Maariv 5.00, Shabbat, Shabbat 8.00, Cantor Naftali Herzog, and Great Synagogue Choir, directed by Eli Jalil.

YESHURUN CENTRAL SYNAGOGUE, Friday, Mincha 4.55, Shabbat 8.00, Maariv 5.50, HAZAN: ASHER HEINOVITZ.

WORLD COUNCIL OF SYNAGOGUES, Conservative, 4 Agon, Friday, Mincha 4.40, Shabbat 8.30, Dvar Tora: Rabbi Dr. Yosef Green, HAZAN: Hanan Kutsin.

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE, Jewish Institute of Religion (Reform), 13 King David St. Sunday, 10 a.m.

TEL AVIV

GREAT SYNAGOGUE, 110 Allenby Rd. Services conducted by Cantor Michael Davidovitz. Ramban shul before Kabbalat Shabbat, and Gemara shul and Kiddush Rabbis after morning prayers. Both lessons by Synagogue President Avraham Hatzron. Mincha 5.10, Shabbat 8.00.

JERUSALEM CHURCH OF GOD (Seventh Day), “House Of Prayer For All People”, Pastor Gordon M. Faith, Sabbath services, 10.30 a.m. 18 Ein Rogel St. (Mitzpeh Abu Tor), Tel. 718814.

ART GUIDE

Notices in this feature are charged at NIS 5.75 per line, including VAT. Once-weekly insertion costs NIS 17.25 per line including VAT, per month.

JERUSALEM

MUSEUMS
ISRAELI MUSEUM, Exhibitions: Ancient Mirrors, display of mirrors from different cultures of Contemporary Art from the Museum Collection of 9 Milestones in Israel Art and Audio-visual Program, Ayala Zeev, Abraham Pavlov, Program for major Israeli art © Ollon Radon, Oil, Pastels, Drawings and Prints © Building in Jerusalem, featuring computer games to building with stone © Neri Mizrahi, light in Jewish ritual, © The Cosmos and the Divine, Ascan textiles © “From the Depths of the Sea” (Rockefeller Museum), © Permanent exhibitions of Judaism, Archaeology, Art and Ethnic Art, © The Temple (Palestine), near Rockefeller Museum, 14 artists present versions of surrounding landscapes.

OLD YISHUV COURT MUSEUM, Life in the Jewish community in the Old City, mid-19th century-World War II, 6 Or Hahaim, Jewish Quarter, Old City, Sun-Thur., 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

SIR ISAAC AND LADY EDITH WOLPSON MUSEUM at Hotel Sacher, Permanent Exhibition of Judaism, Divanah Room: History of Jewish People.

GALLERIES
MISHKENOT SHA'ANANIM, J. Robert Fisher Hall, Tel. 234321, Helia Escobedo, The Great Cone-Drawings (125-142), Hours: Sun., Mon., Wed., Thur. 10-12; Fri. 10-12 only.

TEL AVIV

MUSEUM
TEL AVIV MUSEUM, Exhibitions: Jankel

WHAT'S ON

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JERUSALEM
Conducted Tours
Tours and Visits, Come and see the Great Jewish Temple House for Girls, Jerusalem, and its manifold activities and impressively modern building. Free guided tours weekdays between 9-12, Bus No. 14, 24 or 5, Kiryat Moshe, Tel. 53291.

RADARBAR — Guided tour of all installations 4 hourly tours at Kiryat Hadassah and Hadassah Mt. Scopus, 36 Information, reservations: 02-416333, 02-446271.

HERNIM UNIVERSITY
1. Tours in English at 9 and 11 a.m. from Administration Building, Givat Ram Campus, Buses 9, 23, 24 and 16.
2. Mount Scopus tours 11 a.m. from the Brodman Reception Centre, Sherman Building, Buses 9, 23, 24 and 25 to the first underground stop. Further details: Tel. 02-862819.

AMIT WOMEN (formerly American Mizrahi Women), Free Morning Tours — 8 Alkalai Street, Jerusalem, Tel. 02-669222.

EMUNAH-WORLD RELIGIOUS ZIONIST WOMEN, 26 Ben Maimon, To visit our projects call: 02-662466, 630620, 877817, 811125; 03-444151 morning; 053-36559; 04-236131. Monhe, Tel. 53291.

ORT, To visit our technological High School call Jerusalem 533141; Tel Aviv 39471, 233211, 240529; Netanya 33744.

TEL AVIV
Conducted Tours
AMIT WOMEN (formerly American Mizrahi Women), Free Morning Tours — Tel Aviv, Tel. 220187, 233134.

WIZO, To visit our projects call Tel Aviv, 233939; Jerusalem, 220404; Haifa, 88817.

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CHRISTIAN

JERUSALEM
REDEEMER CHURCH (Lutheran) Muretan Rd. Old City, Jerusalem, Sunday Services, English 9 a.m.; German 10.30 a.m. Tel. 28543, 285201.

CHRIST CHURCH (Anglican) opp. Citadel 9.30 Family service, 7.00 p.m. Evening service.

BAPTIST CONGREGATION, 4 Narkiss, West Jerusalem, Saturday services, 9.00 a.m. Bible study, 10.30 a.m. Worship, Tel. 22942.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND near Railway Station, Sunday morning service 10 a.m.

PENTECOSTAL WORSHIP SERVICE, MT. ZION FELLOWSHIP, 7.30 p.m. Fri., Sat., Sun., Tel. 28364.

ST. PAUL'S (Pentecostal), 32 Shavta Yisrael 8.30 p.m. Saturday, Tel. 02-717988.

JERUSALEM CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY, YMCA auditorium, 26 King David St., Tel. 232010, Sunday, 7 p.m.

JERUSALEM CHURCH OF GOD (Seventh Day), “House Of Prayer For All People”, Pastor Gordon M. Faith, Sabbath services, 10.30 a.m. 18 Ein Rogel St. (Mitzpeh Abu Tor), Tel. 718814.

TEL AVIV

IMMANUEL CHURCH (Lutheran) Tel Aviv-Yaffo, 15 Rehov Beer Hofman near 17 Rehov Edut Tel. 538654, Saturday service 11 a.m. Service in English every Sunday at 10 a.m.

HAIFA
ELIAS CHURCH (Lutheran) Haifa, 43 Meir Street, Saturday Service 11 a.m. Tel. 04-53361.

OTHER CENTRES
BAPTIST VILLAGE CONGREGATION, 2 km. north of Petah Tikva, Saturday Service, Bible study 9.30 a.m. Worship 10.30 a.m. Tel. 052-5832.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS (MORMON CONGREGATION), Jerusalem, 58 Nablis Road (next to the American Consulate), Tel. 02-515794.

TEL AVIV: 27 Shevet Menashe St., Herzliya, 052-7756.

Galilee: 15 Shlomo Homelech St., Tibnana, 047-7220.

Worship Services each Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12.

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Vehicles

Cars for Sale

Innocenti, 1982, metallic green, NIS 6,450. 773542.

107 First-class hairdresser required for independent work, north Tel Aviv. 052-554347.

ALFA ROMEO

Bargain, Alfa Romeo 1200, 65,000km. 052-24962.
Interested in Alfa Romeo GT, 1976, overhauled and braked. 052-93957.

AUDI

Dial 363904 to Piram Zamar and you will appear in Hahush Hahadash at campaign prices and you receive a 3-D poster as a special gift. Piram Zamar, Mekor Baruch industrial area.
80 CD, 1600, 1980, 0km., all possible additions. 02-343222, 02-531973.

AUSTIN, MORRIS

Mini Minor, 1984, 10 months test, excellent condition. 02-250477.
Mini-Metro Austin, 1982, beautiful, second owner. 03-23636.

AUTOBIANCHI

Auto Bianchi Elanghi 1982, excellent condition, year's test, good condition. 02-356344.
Everett 79, test, good condition. 02-356344.

BMW

Elegant 1981, excellent condition, 45,000km. 052-52366.
Junior, 1982, well kept, like new + tape, one owner, from rental. 02-71262.
Junior 83 original, like new, test, one owner from rental. 02-21685.

B.M.W.

B.M.W. 518, 79, 1981, original, extra air conditioner, list price, 02-21069.
BMW 318, 1983, one owner, additions, 50,000km. 02-23434.
BMW 1985, like new, for sale, list, 02-21069.
BMW 1985, like new, for sale, list, 02-21069.

CITROEN

Pallas, 84/5, 5,500km., metallic, beautiful. 04-25466.
Vix Super, one owner, 1983/1, well kept, rock, due to departure. 02-21069.
Citroen GSA Club, 2nd owner, 1982, year's test. 052-22942.
GSA Pallas, 1982, 80,000km., one owner, like new, list price. 03-43022, 02-71702.

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COMMERCIAL CARS

Ford van 1966, 2.5 ton, wide road, 82,000km. 02-21069.
GMC Vandura short 1981, Haanana, 100,000km. 02-21069.
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U.S. CARS

Chevrolet, 1978, automatic, air conditioning, radio, excellent. 02-21069.
Chevrolet 1970, 1979, one owner, excellent. 02-21069.
Ford Fairmont, 1980, year's test, like new (Ministry of Defense). 03-99564; 02-21069.

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Jerusalem

Cars for Sale

For serious! Raanana, penthouse, luxurious, additions, excellent location. 052-31613.
For sale, two family, 2 1/2 + half dunn, Ramat Yishai. 03-716132.
Holon, two family, 38 Tahun, plot, phone, storehouse, foundation.
Kfar Pines, corner house, 140sq.m. + 800sq.m. plot, storehouse, heating, for religious. 051-47231.
Mobilephone, ads received by phone. 24 hour service. 03-803636.

ALFA ROMEO

Allaudi, 82, one owner, test, 53,000, well kept. 02-669213, weekdays.
Sud, 1974, mechanically excellent, radio, NIS 2,700 final. 227412, 245514.

AUDI

Audi 80, 1980, automatic, test, excellent. 536625, 249323.
Audi 80, 1982 + 1983, exchange possible. 242312, 232022.

AUSTIN, MORRIS

Mini Minor, end 1983, one owner, 29,000km. test. 760427.

AUTOBIANCHI

Auto Bianchi, excellent. 1982, test, from rental. 6,400,000. 531741.
Junior, 1982, one owner, opening roof. 6,700,000. 02-67514.

B.M.W.

BMW 72, 1602, test. 02-246980, 819773, test. 02-246980.
BMW 316, 1984, 4 door, exchange possible. 02-242312, 02-232325.
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CITROEN

Citroen Visa, 1983, one owner, exchange possible. 242302, 232323.
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COMMERCIAL CARS

Transit, 1979, good condition, after overhaul. 224672, from afternoons.
Volkswagen transporter, 1982, windows, seats. 02-344997, 02-240698.
Bargain! Iron box for Mack tipper. Work. 02-537181, 02-533719.

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Transit, 1979, good condition, after overhaul. 224672, from afternoons.
Volkswagen transporter, 1982, windows, seats. 02-344997, 02-240698.
Bargain! Iron box for Mack tipper. Work. 02-537181, 02-533719.

CITROEN

Citroen Visa, 1983, one owner, exchange possible. 242302, 232323.
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CITROEN

THE JERUSALEM POST

מא'רצ

Furnished Flats

145 St. Yehoshua, Ramat Yehoshua, furnished, no phone, 03-318425, 03-318427.

3-2 family, phone, furnished, 03-35499.

Begun, Ramat Gan centre, cottage, 4, 3rd floor, beautiful, 03-491782.

Giv'atayim centre, 3 rooms, phone, ground floor, 03-343440.

Ramat Gan, 3½; solar boiler, phone, furnished, 03-70939, 350616.

Ramat Gan centre, Sheron Hagihonim, 3, huge, phone, available, 03-321761.

Ramat Gan, 2 rooms, phone, Rehov Hachof, immediate, 03-730075.

Ramat Hahayal, partially furnished 4 room flat, phone, 03-490552.

Shikun Vitikim, Ramat Gan, 3 furnished rooms, phone, view, 728424.

Ramat Gan, one-room flat, fully furnished, 03-77429, 03-71956.

Hasharon

2-2 1/2 ROOMS

Netanya area, 2½, or exchange for flat in Jerusalem area (also for public institutions), 03-630120, weekday evenings.

Herzlia Heights, 2, nice, pool, tennis court, 03-554379.

3-3 1/2 ROOMS

Kfar Sava, 3, large, luxurious, prestigious, 03-65000, 03-441170.

Ramat Hasharon, 3, dinette, 2nd floor, spacious, quiet, additions, 03-70287.

Herzlia, 3 rooms, dinette, 4th floor, 03-554015.

Hod Hasharon, 3, work-corner, 84sq.m., quiet area, 03-457101.

Ramat Hasharon, 110sq.m., American kitchen, new, 3rd floor, 9 tenants in building, 03-479236, evenings.

Ramat Hasharon, 3, spacious, 2nd floor, parking, phone, quiet, 03-72512.

Burgin, 3½ large, centre, additions, 3rd floor, lift, 03-26737.

Neot Afeka, 3, 3rd floor, expatriates, large kitchen, 03-45479.

Neot Afeka, 3, 3rd floor, quiet, many additions, 03-499912.

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Flats for Rent

Kfar Sava, 4, new, Tel Hai, spacious, solar boiler, 03-292682, 03-318600.

Herzlia centre, 4, luxurious, phone, 03-51064, 03-266807.

Raanana, Brands, to let, 3rd floor, phone, lift, parking, 03-31884.

Ramat Hasharon, Ben Haim, 4 rooms, phone, lift, parking, 03-70881.

Raanana, monthly rental, Rehov Hayovel, 5 rooms, phone, 03-451604.

Kfar Sava, Nahdon, 4, fitted cupboards, carpets, immediate, coral, 03-289943, 03-252616.

Private and quiet for single, Nof Yam, furnished, parking, 03-78673 (90).

Ramat Hasharon, 3½, lovely, 2nd floor, 8220, Yehid Drot, 03-49232, 03-491231.

Herzlia, 4, 5 possible, phone, double conveniences, 03-553316.

Hod Hasharon, 4, dinette, phone, partially furnished possible, 1st floor, 03-35038.

Ramat Hasharon, 4, furnished, phone, immediate, 03-48247, not Shabbat.

Interested in renting house, Herzlia Pitha, 5 rooms, including lounge, at least 50sq.m., till 1000 monthly, Nicholas, 03-259704, 03-457811.

Kfar Sava or Alfei Menashe, 5 room flat or house required, rental, long term, Tel. 03-23742, evenings, 03-821758, days.

Ramat Hasharon, 4, furnished, phone, immediate, 03-48247, not Shabbat.

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Refrigerators

German shepherd puppy, 4 certifi- cates, foreign parents, champion blood, 03-436584.

Belgian shepherd pups, 03-452135, extension 248.

Koschund pedigree pups, lovely, 6 weeks old, 412420.

Amor 16, 6 years, NIS 550, 03-75669, after 15.00.

Foreign made refrigerators, no frost, guaranteed, Kfar Aviv, 2nd Hamelech, 03-385201.

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French Minister of State Deferre:

'We must prevent revival of anti-Semitism'

By DAVID KRIVINE

"Another genocide or a new Holocaust cannot happen, and the State of Israel can never disappear off the map: these two things must be made clear to world opinion," Gaston Deferre declared yesterday in Jerusalem. The veteran French socialist politician was explaining his presence as official guest at the assembly of the World Jewish Congress.

Joseph Sitruk, chief rabbi of Marseilles, where Deferre is mayor, paid tribute to Deferre's long-standing friendship with the Jewish people. Speaking to *The Jerusalem Post* later, the rabbi noted: "His two greatest friends were the late Pierre Mendès-France and the current president, Francois Mitterrand."

"When the Israeli authorities want to get an important message across to Mitterrand, they as often as not channel it through Deferre, using him as an intermediary," Sitruk said.

Aged 75, Deferre also holds the post of minister of state in the French cabinet, which makes him No. 3 in order of precedence after President Mitterrand and Prime Minister Laurent Fabius. His portfolio is economic planning.

"There are signs of anti-Semitism in France and other places," he warned the WJC. "We must be vigilant to prevent its revival." He pointed to his government's decision to formally recognize Holocaust victims as such, in an effort to counter the anti-Semitic contention that the

mass destruction of the Jews never occurred.

"In a law passed on May 15 of last year, the 140,000 French residents who died in the camps will no longer be registered hypocritically as 'dead in Drancy.' The official record now is that they perished following deportation to the extermination centres."

Marseilles, he noted, had been twinned with Haifa. "We have just celebrated the 25th anniversary of this event."

Turning to politics, Deferre said: "France defends on the international scene Israel's right to security. At the same time, we would like to see the Arabs living in a Palestinian entity, but side-by-side with Israel and not in confrontation with it."



Gaston Deferre. (IPPA)

Dinitz: Oxford Union debate reflects increased UK sympathy for Israel

By ASHER WALLFISH

British attitudes towards Israel have changed noticeably over the past two years, not only among the student body at Oxford University, but apparently also among students at other centres, and among academics, intellectuals and politicians, according to Alignment MK Simcha Dinitz.

The former ambassador to Washington, who recently represented Israel's case at an Oxford Union debate, feels that Israel can not only enjoy a fair hearing after a long period of being cold-shouldered, but can even expect to gain a receptive and sympathetic ear.

"The Oxford Union Society is a student club whose best-known activity is the staging of debates on important national and international issues. This course and outcome of its debates are often regarded as a pointer to the thinking of an entire generation, which is likely to produce influential British leaders in the coming years."

"A number of union debates on Middle East topics in recent years centred on motions hostile to Israel in their phrasing," Dinitz told *The Jerusalem Post*. "But the motion on which I spoke, that 'The creation of a Palestinian state will not solve the Arab-Israeli conflict,' did not start from the premise that Israel is at fault for the troubles of the Palestine Arabs. My job was to convince the union of the illegitimacy of Palestinian statehood, a concept which was taken for granted in previous years in many British circles," he said.

Dinitz and his colleague, Dr. Baruch Knei-Paz of the Hebrew University, persuaded the union to approve the motion by a vote of 283 to 157.

"Sympathy with the Palestinians has shrunk considerably. The Palestine Liberation Organization is seen more and more as a terrorist organization, seeking to put obstacles in the way of the diplomatic process," he said.

Dinitz said he had no trouble showing that the PLO would stamp its terrorist character on any Palestinian state. "That disqualifies Palestinian statehood for the majority of my hearers, and pushed the concept of self-determination out of their minds," he added.

"My audience had no difficulty accepting that the PLO sought to win the West Bank as its first target and the whole of pre-1967 Israel as its second target, in due time," he said.

"The majority of the union accepted my argument that Jordan must play a major role in solving the Palestinian problem," Dinitz said.

Dinitz conceded that his two opponents, Christopher Mayhew and Prof. Musa Mazzawi, made his own points fall on fertile soil. Mazzawi, a Palestinian teacher of law at the London Polytechnic, put some union members off with his threatening tone. Mayhew, who leads the Arab lobby in Britain, put others off with his repeated anti-Semitic overtones.

Mayhew even managed to offend a number of Arabs present, when he said that the only Arabs to whom Israelis talk are "either quislings or in prison," Dinitz said.

"As it happened, one of the student debaters was an Arab girl, the daughter-in-law of former Jordanian cabinet minister Anwar Nusseibeh, who lives in Jerusalem. I commented that I would not call her distinguished father-in-law a quisling, but a proud Palestinian Arab who talks to Israelis all the time, and that put Mayhew in his place," he said.

He noted that Mayhew stuck his foot in still deeper when he charged that "the Israelis dictated the phrasing of the motion of the debate." When Jews, Zionists and Israelis band together they can get around the president of the Oxford Union."

After the debate, the Jewish students at Oxford told him that "now we can lift our heads again in pride because somebody got the better of Mayhew."

Dinitz acknowledged a big debt to Israeli diplomat Gershon Avner, a former president of the Oxford Union, who advised him on the procedures and style of the union's debates.

Nine unlucky winners of MDA lottery

TEL AVIV (Itim). - Nine holders of winning Magen David Adom lottery tickets aren't getting their prizes - automobiles - because they didn't pay for the tickets. The hapless winners were sent the tickets through the mail.

The distribution of lottery prizes will end on February 12, MDA spokesman Moshe Dayan said.

W. Bank Arabs withdraw appeal against expulsion

Three West Bank Arabs yesterday withdrew their appeals against expulsion, claiming that they would not get a fair hearing. The three, Azmi Shuaibi of Al-Bira, Ali Abu-Hilla of Abu Dis, and Hassan Faraj of Bethlehem, had appealed to the High Court of Justice against their expulsion, on grounds of organizing local cells of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

They fired their defence lawyers and withdrew their appeal after the court president, Dov Levin, said he would not allow the submission that the expulsions were against international law. The High Court had ruled against this contention several times. The three also objected to the fact that their lawyers would not be permitted to examine the secret evidence against them.

The three told the court that they had acted for the good of their people, that the Palestinian people aspired to peace, and that their activities had been political.

They said there was no way the proceedings could be fair if they were not permitted to see the evidence against them. The court cancelled the temporary injunction, which held up the expulsion until the end of the appeal.

The authorities are now free to set an expulsion date. (Itim).

40 Arab kindergarten teachers get diplomas

AFULA (Itim). - The first class of Arab kindergarten teachers received certificates on Wednesday at a ceremony held in the Obel Sala college. The 40 graduates will be employed by four local councils in the Nazareth area.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

8 months for throwing soup over mother-in-law

TEL AVIV (Itim). - A Lod man was yesterday sentenced in the district court here to eight months in prison and 10 months suspended for pouring hot soup over his mother-in-law and causing extensive second degree burns.

Mordechai Heyman, 41, seized a pot of boiling soup during an argument with his mother-in-law and threw it at her. Passing sentence, the judge said that the argument was one of many between the man and his wife and mother-in-law.

Heyman has since divorced his wife, who was mentally retarded.

Friend said stabbed after 'maniac' insult

HAIFA (Itim). - A local man was remanded for 15 days yesterday in the Haifa District Court, charged with murdering his childhood friend because he called him a "maniac."

According to the prosecution, Selim Ahmad Abed, 36, met his friend Mohammed Abu Rija last December and congratulated him on his release from jail, upon which the latter called him a "maniac" (which can mean pervers in Hebrew).

Abed allegedly sought out Rija a few days later at his restaurant in Haifa, where he was sitting with his wife. Grabbing him around the neck, he stabbed him in the throat.

Rija managed to get to a nearby police station before he died.

Four Dubek brands win gold medals

Jerusalem Post Reporter
Four Dubek cigarette brands - Broadway 80, Time, Montana and Sheraton - were recently awarded gold medals in the Monde Selection international competition in Lisbon.

Time cigarettes not only came away with their 10th successive gold medal but were awarded the special distinction title. Participating in the contest were 281 companies representing 61 countries.

Monde Selection, with headquarters in Brussels, is an international standards institute which runs yearly quality tests. The institute grants awards for excellence to a wide range of products, including alcoholic beverages, food items, and beauty accessories.

The committee that judges the hundreds of items entered in the competition comprises well-known scientists and researchers. The first Monde Selection contest took place in Brussels in 1961.



The mother of the late Samal Ronen Reichel is supported by her daughter at the funeral in Holon yesterday. (Andre Bruttman)

Funerals held of soldiers killed in Jordan Valley

TEL AVIV (Itim). - The funerals were held yesterday of two Israel Defence Forces soldiers killed on Wednesday morning in the Jordan Valley.

Thousands of residents of Upper Nazareth accompanied the coffin of Rav-Turai Shai Tsinder to burial in the town's military cemetery.

The commander of Tsinder's unit told the mourners at the graveside that the deceased had been the first to detect the Jordanian soldier who had infiltrated across the border. Tsinder fired at him, but was killed himself immediately after.

Tsinder is survived by his parents and a brother, an officer in the regular army.

The other dead soldier, Samal

Ronen Reichel, 20, was buried in the military section of the cemetery in Holon, the city in which he had been born and educated. Among the thousands of mourners was O/C Central Command Ehud Barak.

Reichel had completed two years of his army service and had planned to join the regular army.

Meanwhile, Aluf Barak and other senior officers toured the Mehola area yesterday where Wednesday's incident occurred. Barak stressed that there was no need to change the security arrangements there.

Life returned to normal yesterday on both sides of the border near Mehola. Israeli and Jordanian farmers were hard at work on the land all the way to the border.

Informant in land-fraud case is arrested

By BARBARA AMOUYAL

For The Jerusalem Post

A former employee of Avraham Gindi, the Tel Aviv contractor arrested on December 1, 1985 on suspicion of fraudulent West Bank land deals and bribery, was arrested yesterday and later released on NIS 2,000 bail.

Hanoch Chen, 28, of Tel Aviv, was arrested by the national police investigation unit for serious crimes for giving false testimony against Gindi and co-suspect Avi Tzur.

Chen supplied purported "first-hand evidence" to Assistant Commander Shimon Savir of the serious crimes investigation unit. That evidence was used in preparing charges against Gindi and Tzur. According

to Chen, Gindi paid \$35,000 to Tzur - then aide to Michael Dekel, who was deputy agriculture minister in charge of settlement - to issue false authorization under Dekel's name for the development of the Samaritan settlements of Kramim and Kal'im.

Savir later discovered that information supplied by Chen comprised "baseless lies." Apparently, Chen wanted to take revenge on his former employer for firing him from the firm, and thus implicated Gindi with the alleged bribery.

A national police spokesman said last night that, despite Chen's false testimony, police still have "more than enough" evidence to substantiate the charges against Gindi and Tzur.

THE JERUSALEM POST

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WHEN WE SAW Housing Minister David Levy on the news, he was very triumphant in Nazareth about the apparent failure of Ezer Weizman's mission to Cairo. Immediately afterwards, Weizman came on. He did not seem to be very sorry for himself, and he described the attitude of Shamir and Levy as childish and irresponsible. I was not surprised that I agreed with him. He has really changed from being the reckless fighter-pilot into being an indefatigable worker for peace, without losing his dash. I like him this way. He is really becoming a statesman like his great uncle.

Talking about the struggle for peace, there was one very curious item on the news. A gang of Arabs and Jews, who are so disturbed that they believe in inter-racial amity and non-violent ways of solving the Palestinian problem, had the effrontery to plant symbolic olive trees on some land belonging to the government. The government struck back with the speed of lightning, and uprooted all the trees. We can't have that kind of anarchy in the land - peace, non-violence, symbolic olive trees - what will these crazy people think of next?

SOMETIMES I suspect that our enemies, the Koka-nuts, are actuated by political motives. One of their strikes, for instance, was apparently designed to prevent our seeing the antics of MKs Dov Shilansky and Gula Cohen on the Temple Mount. This week they censored the opening of the World Jewish Congress, apart from the speech by Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, which I would quite happily have done without; while I wanted to see and hear Edgar Bronfman.

The news team is showing remarkable ingenuity in finding synopses to describe the Koka-nut strikes. When we are deprived of items on the programme, we are given various explanations. Sometimes we are told that there is a dispute between management and the en-

Olive caper

TELEREVIEW / Philip Gillon

gineers union, sometimes that there is a work stoppage, sometimes simply that there is a strike and sometimes that an item cannot be shown owing to "lack of means."

All this suggests a good item for Kolbohek to investigate on behalf of deprived and wronged consumers. A certain government-created body enjoys a complete monopoly on the broadcasting of television programmes. Every now and then, it falls down on the job, cuts its news to half, or only covers one football game for a few minutes in its weekly sports programme, or leaves out a thriller or serial that was billed to be shown. Never does anybody bother to explain to the paying customers why they are being short-changed, despite the enormous licence fees that they are charged. Neither the management nor the engineers ever appear on television to justify their points of view, although it is the viewers, not they, who are being robbed. They go on drawing their salaries, emoluments and fringe benefits just as if they were fulfilling their duties under the Broadcasting Law; which, of course, they are not doing. This contempt for the public and the law surely merits a scathing attack by Rafi Ginat and his team.

DR. BERNARD LOWN, one of the joint winners of the Nobel Prize for Peace for the campaign he and a Russian heart surgeon launched among physicians to get nuclear weapons outlawed, certainly made our blood run cold when he appeared on Ram Evron's *This is the Time*. He described the effect on our poor planet of a nuclear war. Only one-third of the mega-tonnage available would wipe out 1.1 billion peo-

ple and would injure a further 1.1b.; fires and dust would rage across continents; dust and smog would shut out the sunlight; temperatures would drop far below freezing point.

Evron, playing, I presume, the role of devil's advocate, asked him how the U.S. could possibly try to nuke the Russians. Dr. Lown replied by quoting Albert Einstein, who said 40 years ago that the possibility of nuclear war had changed everything except our thinking.

He added a frightening statistic: in the U.S., 112,000 people have access to nuclear weapons, and a large number of them have been found to use drugs, or to drink heavily, or to have psychiatric problems.

A curious fact that he revealed is that the media in Russia have given him wide publicity: he has appeared on state television eight times, twice for an hour, talking to 180 million people; while the American media apparently consider the subject boring, and won't give him time to talk about it. A thought he did not express, but which worries me, is that all too soon small countries in the Middle East will have nuclear weapons. The sabre-rattling of some of our politicians about minute pieces of ground is disturbing enough: imagine what will happen, when they can rattle nuclear bombs!

WE ARE in danger of becoming a nation of paranoiacs about our origins. This was my reaction to the *Second Look* programme about the Georgians. Several of them said, "In Georgia we were Jews, here we are Georgians." Similar complaints have been voiced down the years by yekkes, Galicians, Rumanians, Yemenites, Moroccans, Iraqis, Ira-

nians and almost everybody of whom I can think, except the so-called "Anglo-Saxons." For some reason, perhaps because they never came in sufficient numbers to warrant anybody thinking about them as a cohesive body, or perhaps because they were too shallow to comprehend what other people were thinking about them, they have never complained about being victims of prejudice.

Having made the point that all Israelis tend to be snobs about origins without the slightest warranty for that snobbishness, I must admit that the Georgians made a very strong case for their being the victims of prejudice. The deputy mayor of Ashdod revealed that, when he was elected secretary of the local labour council, he invited people to come drink a toast in his home. Several objected that they could not drink with a Georgian.

An extremely good-looking woman said that an Ashkenazi woman advised her in all seriousness to change her name so as to disguise her origins. She rightly refused to do so.

It was an excellent film, from which I emerged with the conviction that the Georgians are so clever, their food is so good and their women are so good-looking that they need not bother for a moment about the contempt of the contemptible.

The Scots, I suppose, are to England what the Georgians are to Russia - at least, Dr. Samuel Johnson used to treat them with great disdain. I am therefore pleased to congratulate Scottish television on making a superb film about marathon running. *The Way to Go*, which we saw on Tuesday night, it was great, and really managed to get us into the bodies of the runners; we shared their anguish and their pride.

Watching the destruction of Chalenger was one of the most fearsome experiences we have ever had. Let us hope that nobody will be deterred from carrying on with the exploration of space.

A way to win friends

BY ROY ISACOWITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter



Yoram Meshel

ing its convention in Brussels last December.

Afterward and Israel's links with the black trade union movement in South Africa has become Meshel's prime international concern. In Brussels last year, he met Piroshaw Camay, head of the Council of Unions of South Africa, and discussed with him the possibility of holding an international symposium on apartheid at the Lavon Institute.

Earlier this month, Meshel sent invitations to Camay and to Elijah Barayit, the powerful head of the new Confederation of South African Trade Unions, inviting them to participate in the symposium. If all goes according to plan, the symposium should take place by May.

Meshel acknowledges difficulties in his dealings with black South African trade unionists, due mainly to Israel's spotty track-record when it comes to South Africa. "We make too many excuses," he says. "We are always bringing up the Jewish community in South Africa or Israel's diplomatic isolation."

Meshel is nothing if not a real politician. He is well aware that Israel cannot afford to forgo South African coal and steel or to ignore the needs of the local Jewish community. But he insists that there are other areas in which Israel, and particularly the Histadrut, can demonstrate practical opposition to apartheid.

The Histadrut has never recognized the white regime in South Africa. Histadrut leaders have consistently refused invitations to meet with South African government representatives and the labour federation has devoted an entire day to discussing the issue during its meeting in Washington last May and again dur-

ing its convention in Brussels last December. Meshel believes that the Israeli government can, and should, take a stand on trade with the homelands. It is inconceivable, he says, that a Western democracy should, by its silence, permit cooperation with what he terms "international criminals."

Recently, Meshel sent letters to Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir demanding that they act to prevent Israeli commerce with the homelands. He stressed that the commerce, which is conducted by private Israeli businessmen including one or two Knesset members, could have serious international repercussions if allowed to continue.

Meshel is aware that there are limits to the influence which a democratic government can exert on the private affairs of its citizens. But the least he is demanding is that the government express its opposition to links with the homelands in the strongest and most public terms.

"At the moment it is regarded as being almost honourable to trade with the bantustans," he says. "That public perception must be changed. The government must show them up for what they are."

To supplement his letters to Peres and Shamir, Meshel is considering a string of further steps, including the holding of a Knesset debate on Israel's links with the homelands.

If Yoram Meshel has any say in the matter, the issue of apartheid and South Africa's black trade unions will assume a central position on Israel's agenda. "We must take action not only because it is in our interests to do so," he says, "but also because it is right and moral."

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A LITTLE SOMETHING

By YITTY ROTENBERG
Jerusalem Post Staff

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NIS 1.00 In honour of the 90th birthday of our grandparents and great-grandchildren, Abba Rosenbaum, Queens, NY. - Rabbi Marc and Roberta Saperstein, Sate and Adina, Cambridge, MA.

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MARKET PLACE

PINHAS LANDAU

The return of Shlomo Eliahu

The Commissioner of Insurance at the Treasury, Yehuda Drori, earlier this week gave the green light to the \$5 million deal whereby Eliahu Insurance acquired 25 per cent of Phoenix Insurance from the Discount Investment Corp. In so doing, it is likely that Drori also opened the way for a major realignment of the main forces in the Israeli insurance industry.

For several years past Shlomo Eliahu has been in a state of self-imposed inactivity. He was the only significant player in the insurance field who, back in 1981/82, not only predicted that the industry was heading for a crash, but actually acted on his prediction.

In effect, he did what many people dream and talk of doing, but few succeed at: he cashed in his chips and walked out of the game while he was still ahead. He then built himself a skyscraper in the heart of Tel Aviv and, from his plush penthouse office, watched as his predictions came true and his competitors cut each other's throats.

The shock of October 1983 almost destroyed the whole industry, and both big and small firms reported huge losses. The process of recovery since then has been slow and many small insurance firms have either gone bankrupt, merged or been bought up by others.

Eliahu's slogan, that the industry must concentrate into groups, is well on the way to realization.

Meanwhile, at the time of the stock market boom of 1982, Eliahu had bought an 11 per cent stake in Phoenix, the number-three insurance company. He paid them \$5 million, buying his shares in the market at the inflated prices then prevailing. Despite this, Eliahu's claim that it was a justifiable long-term investment could be borne out by Phoenix's performance.

Now under the management of Yossi Hachemy, son of the firm's founder, Phoenix has taken full advantage of the lack of leadership provided by the two biggest firms, Hachemy and Migdal, to make itself the most dynamic of the major companies.

Phoenix was founded by David Hachemy in 1949, in partnership with the British Phoenix company. From the early fifties, the Discount Investment Corp. held a 25 per cent stake, and the Hachemy family maintained a long and fruitful relationship with the Hachemy's.

In early 1985, however, when the British sought to sell their 30 per cent share, it was bought by the Hachemy family without Discount getting a look in. To add insult to injury, the Hachemy's used their 60 per cent controlling position to freeze Discount out of the board of directors. Since Discount Investments has a policy of actively participating in running the companies it invests in, there was no chance of it putting up with this kind of treatment.

Thus the announcement earlier this month that Discount had sold its stake to Eliahu Insurance (which now paid the same price for 25 per cent as it had in 1982 for 11 per cent) made sense from their point of view.

For Eliahu it makes even more sense. Even the way in which it was done — \$5m. in cash — is a clear message to the whole industry that Shlomo Eliahu has come down from Olympus and is wading back into the fray — with his financial position in infinitely better shape than that of his bigger competitors. It also makes Eliahu the fifth or sixth biggest company in the league, since Phoenix is now an affiliated company.

But 36 per cent as a stake is neither here nor there. Shlomo Eliahu needs either 25.1 per cent — to be in a blocking position on Phoenix's board and thus to force Hachemy to work with him, or 50.1 per cent, to obtain control. Since it is highly unlikely that Hachemy will sell out to him, it may be assumed that Eliahu will seek to sell about 10 per cent of his holding to someone looking for a good investment. (Phoenix paid a 100 per cent cash dividend last year).

In any event he still has the resources to continue building up Eliahu Insurance, and he will probably use his newly-acquired power in Phoenix as a lever to achieve that end.

STRIKE. — The country's post offices may be closed on Sunday, if the postal workers' strike threat is carried out. The employees are up in arms over a proposal to cut their phone allowances as an economy measure.

PURSE STRINGS / David Krivine

One shipyard too many

The Ministerial Economic Committee's decision to keep Israel Shipyards going will cost the taxpayer (according to Treasury experts) \$30-35 million on liquidating the company's debts.

Even if that is done, a further subsidy of \$1-2m. per annum will be required to cover the dockyard's deficit in its day-to-day operations.

Nor did this lamentable situation start yesterday. I quote: "Israel Shipyards is functioning at half-pace. Its workers, numbering close to a thousand, fill in time by playing *shesh-besh*. The management draws on financial reserves built up in the past to pay their wages, because it does not want to fire more staff than have already gone."

I wrote these words myself four years ago at the beginning of 1982, in an article entitled "Run Around."

There could be work for a ship-building-and-repair yard in Israel today, the proof being that we have two of them, one run at a loss as stated, the other not a company at all but a department of the navy (so we do not know whether it pays its way or not).

One shipyard would be enough, and it should not be subsidized. A firm which has Big Brother behind it ready to pick up the tab, will become slack, strike-prone, overmanned, inefficient and unprofitable (like El Al, before Big Brother stalked off in 1982).

An undertaking that is on its own, that has to sink or swim unaided and that no outside agency is going to rescue, will fight as hard as it can to compete.

If one set of owners fails, another will come along and buy it up. The assumption is that it supplies a necessary service. If it does not, it will close down quickly and quietly, without fuss.

There are 50,000 companies operating under those rules in Israel, and mostly they manage; but closures happen. The market changes, making enterprises redundant. In 1976 building workers numbered 86,000, and in 1984 their number was down to 79,000.

What happened to the other 7,000? They were fired and went home. By now they are employed elsewhere.

In 1978 there were 13,000 diamond workers, and in 1982 only 8,000. What happened to the balance? The same. No angry demonstrations took place, no TV cameras appeared on the scene. Were they not entitled to a vote by the Knesset, demanding that they be kept in employment?

Six hundred workers in the state-owned Israel Shipyards, yes. As to the 12,000 building and diamond workers, nobody took any notice.

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Paper Mills in \$5-6m. rebuilding

By AARON SITTNER

Jerusalem Post Reporter
American-Israeli Paper Mills of Hadera will invest \$5-6 million this year in rebuilding its Machine Number Three, which turns out paper towelling, tissue paper and other consumer products.

A company spokesman told *The Post* that the outlay "will not only double Hadera Paper's capacity to produce domestic-use paper, but will also open up an export market for us." He added that by doubling Machine Number Three's capacity, all of the country's requirements for

this type of paper would be met, with ample surplus production available for sale to markets in Mediterranean countries and Europe.

The management's decision to invest in rebuilding the machine was taken on the basis of last year's successful experience in refurbishing Machine Number Two, which produces industrial papers, he said.

According to the spokesman, the only alternative method for doubling output capability of Machine Number Three would be the installation of a new machine, at a price somewhere between \$30m. and \$60m.

Changes sought in Free Trade Area pact

A delegation from the Ministry of Industry and Trade will leave for Washington shortly to negotiate changes in the textiles section of the Israel-U.S. Free Trade Area agreement.

This was decided upon yesterday at a meeting between Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon and U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering. Sharon explained to the envoy that some of the textiles restrictions in the free trade pact are severely limiting Israel's sales potential in the American market.

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

MARKET STATISTICS

Indices:

General Share Index	87.41	-0.68%
Non-Share Index	99.38	-1.17%
Arrangement	96.35	-0.48%
Insurance	98.80	-0.95%
Commerce/Services	100.61	-1.38%
Real Estate	107.52	-1.23%
Industrial	97.38	-1.14%
Textiles	103.39	-0.89%
Metals	87.38	-0.84%
Electronics	84.52	-1.04%
Chemicals	88.33	-1.26%
Industrial Invest.	96.32	-0.53%
Investment Cos.	100.71	-1.36%
General Bond Index	98.15	+0.23%
Index-linked Bonds	98.41	+0.33%
Partially-linked	98.00	+0.33%
Full-linked	98.05	+0.33%
Dollar-linked Bonds	98.50	-0.18%
Short-term 0-2 yrs	98.29	+0.16%
Medium-term 2-5 yrs	98.29	+0.26%
Long-term 5+ yrs	8.59	+0.23%

Turnovers:

Shema — total	NIS 6,107,400
Arrangement	NIS 3,050,600
Non-bank	NIS 2,056,800
Bonds — total	NIS 5,446,800
Index-linked	NIS 3,787,400
Dollar-linked	NIS 1,658,200
Trustee Bills	NIS 1,075,800

Share Movements:

Advances	60 (143)
of which 5% +	14 (14)
"buyers only"	2 (4)
Declines	207 (111)
of which 5% -	41 (13)
"sellers only"	10 (2)
Unchanged	115 (138)
Trading Halt	66 (53)

Bond Market Trends:

Index-linked	Rises to 0.5%
3% fully-linked	

4.25% fully-linked	Rises to 3%
80% linked	Rises to 2%
Double-linked:	Stable/slight gains
Dollar-linked:	Rises to 3%
Admon	Slight falls
Admon	Mixed to 1%
Gilboa	Mixed to 1%
For. Curr. denominated	Stable
Treasury Bills (monthly yield)	2.02-2.47%

Arrangement yields:

IDB ord.	14.54%
Union 0.1	14.54%
Leumi 0.1	15.04%
Leumi 0.2	14.57%
Leumi 0.3	14.57%
Leumi 0.4	14.57%
Leumi 0.5	14.57%
Leumi 0.6	14.57%
Leumi 0.7	14.57%
Leumi 0.8	14.57%
Leumi 0.9	14.57%
Leumi 1.0	14.57%
Leumi 1.1	14.57%
Leumi 1.2	14.57%
Leumi 1.3	14.57%
Leumi 1.4	14.57%
Leumi 1.5	14.57%
Leumi 1.6	14.57%
Leumi 1.7	14.57%
Leumi 1.8	14.57%
Leumi 1.9	14.57%
Leumi 2.0	14.57%
Leumi 2.1	14.57%
Leumi 2.2	14.57%
Leumi 2.3	14.57%
Leumi 2.4	14.57%
Leumi 2.5	14.57%
Leumi 2.6	14.57%
Leumi 2.7	14.57%
Leumi 2.8	14.57%
Leumi 2.9	14.57%
Leumi 3.0	14.57%
Leumi 3.1	14.57%
Leumi 3.2	14.57%
Leumi 3.3	14.57%
Leumi 3.4	14.57%
Leumi 3.5	14.57%
Leumi 3.6	14.57%
Leumi 3.7	14.57%
Leumi 3.8	14.57%
Leumi 3.9	14.57%
Leumi 4.0	14.57%
Leumi 4.1	14.57%
Leumi 4.2	14.57%
Leumi 4.3	14.57%
Leumi 4.4	14.57%
Leumi 4.5	14.57%
Leumi 4.6	14.57%
Leumi 4.7	14.57%
Leumi 4.8	14.57%
Leumi 4.9	14.57%
Leumi 5.0	14.57%

SELECTED PRICE QUOTATIONS

Name	Price	Value	% Change
Commercial Banks			
(part of "arrangement")			
BankLeumi	600	1737	-6.3
First Int'l	2540	2130	-0.8
RBI	2433	2065	-0.8
Commercial Banks			
(part of "arrangement")			
IDB	7370	440	-0.5
Union 0.1	54700	64	-1.1
Discount	83200	1342	-0.8
Mizrahi	30100	856	-1.0
Hapoelim r	49750	1048	-0.5
General A	127350	11	-0.2
Leumi 0.1	31730	958	-0.3
Fin. Trade	44000		
Mortgage Banks			
Leumi Mort. r	2995	220	-4.2
Dev. Mort.	800	508	-1.2
Mizrahi r	1700	225	-1.7
Tefahot	10200	614	-0.9
Meirav r	1400	614	-0.9
Financial Institutions			
Agri. C	24990		
Ind. Dev. DD	no trading		
Clal Leasing 0.1	4660		+2.6
Insurance			
Asrat 0.1 r	2215	189	-10.0
Hachemy r	2215	2203	-
Phoenix 0.1	1008	727	-
Hachemy	4960	30	-1.8
Marofish 1	8300	100	-0.3
Sahar r	2180	135	-0.4
Zion Hold. 1	7675		+5.0
Real Estate, Building and Agriculture			
Meirav 2	4390	23	-1.8
Superior 2	3770	200	-1.8
Delat r	3674	730	-0.0
Lightage	9280	78	+2.3
Cold Storage	725	88	-4.6
Can Hotels	3290	107	-3.1
Yarden Hotel	1800	9	-5.3
Hilon 1	no trading		
Team 1	1950	78	-3.6
Real Estate, Building and Agriculture			
Azovim	2439	1048	-0.4
Elton	918	495	+0.7
Africa Int. 0.1	3100	67	-
	3148	-	-
Prop. & Bldg.	3980	630	-0.3
Braydale 0.1	6190	88	-6.9
ILDC r	27408	208	-1.4
Ramco r	no trading		
Mahadim	10200	342	-2.7
Huderaim	1710	1155	-2.3
Industrials			
Dubak B	2290	171	-0.9
Prf-2-1	3385	473	-10.0
Sunfront	4900	210	-8.0
Elite	9200	87	-2.8
Agapan r	500	250	-2.5
Argan r	no trading		
Datta G 1	3200	268	-1.8
Maquette 1	19400	10	-3.7
Eagle 1	8650	28	-10.0
Polget 0.1	7610	46	-
Schollaria	8250	146	-
Rozenstein	2500	684	-4.7
Un. Can. 0.1 r	11800	194	-1.7
Zion Can. 1	868	4611	-
Peckler Steel	190		-4.8
Elbit 3	391000	4	-1.0
Oil Exploration			
Paz Oil Expl.	10200	127	-
J.O.E.L.	1380	795	-
Abbreviations:			
a.s. = sellers only			
b.s. = buyers only			
r = registered			

THE JERUSALEM POST

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Darkening horizon

IT IS NOW clear that the hopes originally expressed on both the Israeli and the Egyptian sides that the inner cabinet's approval, two weeks ago, of a "package deal" predicated on arbitration for Tabu would produce a breakthrough in relations between the two countries, have been dashed.

Fear of a serious new crisis was the trigger for Ezer Weizman's flight into Cairo earlier this week, in an effort to talk President Hosni Mubarak into meeting urgently with Premier Shimon Peres. The idea of such an early summit has, however, been rejected by Mr. Mubarak, who insists on the two governments first reaching an agreement on the terms of the compromise.

Since the provisions for normalization set by the inner cabinet are themselves in dispute between Cairo and Jerusalem, it could mean that the summit would be held, if at all, between Mr. Mubarak and Mr. Peres's successor under the rotation accord, Vice Premier Yitzhak Shamir.

This is not a prospect that should have particularly delighted the Egyptian president, assuming that his sights are genuinely set on peace. Premier Peres is not an entirely free agent in conducting his peace policy, as he must share power with an internal opposition represented by Mr. Shamir. But Mr. Mubarak, limited as his own freedom of maneuver may be by anti-peace forces within and outside Egypt, has not been doing much to capitalize on the fact that for the next eight months Israel's government will still be headed by Mr. Peres.

A summit now would not have brought the two leaders closer together on the solution of the Palestinian problem. But it might have smoothed the way, all too often obstructed by fussy and squabbling technicians on both sides, to normalization — which in turn could generate a more congenial atmosphere in which to conduct a meaningful political dialogue. The necessity of such a dialogue was highlighted by the starkly contradictory positions taken by Mr. Peres and Mr. Mubarak on separate European forums these past few days.

Mr. Peres kept reiterating wherever he went — at The Hague, in London, and in Bonn — Israel's readiness to seek a wider Middle East peace by negotiating directly, if under a suitable international umbrella, with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that would not include spokesmen for the terrorist PLO. Mr. Mubarak, for his part, in an address to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, while calling for an international convention to combat and deter terrorism and its sponsoring states, excepted from the scope of the mooted convention "national liberation movements which are compelled at a certain time to resort to armed struggle in order to end occupation of the national land and enable peoples to practise their basic right of self-determination." He did not need to elaborate.

American recognition of the Palestinians' right to self-determination was what Yasser Arafat was holding out for this week in his unsuccessful talks with King Hussein in Amman, as the minimal condition for his endorsement of Resolution 242. That would, of course, mean unilateral amendment of 242, which the U.S. does not accept, and the American stand was upheld by the Hashemite monarch, who also wants the PLO chief to forswear terrorism at least for the duration of any talks.

But Mr. Mubarak, whose country, unlike Jordan, is no longer even in a formal state of belligerence with Israel, in effect sides with Arafat — and clears him of any charge of terrorism. This would not have been surprising of Hafez Assad before his break with the "mainstream" PLO, but there is no logical way to reconcile the Mubarak argument with Egypt's obligations under the Camp David accords and the peace treaty.

To be sure, that is also true, in Israel's case, of Mr. Shamir's bland assertion, during a tour of Nablus last week, that the local Palestinians will bow to permanent Israeli domination because "they have no alternative." This assumes, without any attempt at substantiation, that the Palestinians stand entirely alone in the world. Since they do not, they do have an alternative, which spells the breakdown of such peace as now exists between Israelis and Arabs, and eventual descent into wholesale war.

It is a pity Mr. Mubarak has not seen fit, or felt able, to take action now in concert with Mr. Peres to arrest any such cataclysmic development.

TEMPLE MOUNT

(Continued from Page One)

whether it is permitted to walk on the site.

As for the synagogue, the chief rabbi was reported as saying it should be large and beautiful and taller than the two domes, so that whoever looked at the skyline of Jerusalem would notice it first. It would be located in the east, he said, although it was immaterial whether it was in the north-east or the south-east, and the windows would overlook the Dome of the Rock.

Eliahu reportedly said that Jews

all over the world would contribute towards the erection of the synagogue. But he is said to have added that it was to be hoped that the Messiah would come before the synagogue was completed, thus facing the builders with the problem of what to do with the money which was collected.

The Jerusalem police spokesman said last night that the police had no plans to place extra forces around the Temple Mount in the light of possible unrest following Eliahu's remarks, but said that reinforcements were always nearby, only a radio call away.

HUSSEIN URGED

(Continued from Page One)

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, the senior Washington negotiator between Israel and Jordan.

While much of Peres's speech dealt with the peace process and Moscow's attitudes to Israel and to Soviet-Jewish emigration, the prime minister also commented on the attitudes towards Israel he had found in Europe.

"Europeans are not worried that we are depressed, or angry, or out of our minds," said Peres, in a reference to past descriptions of Israel in recent years as a "mad state." "They are convinced that Israel wants peace."

Unlike Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Peres has been stressing a role for the Soviets in an international conference. He made clear the conditions under which the Soviets could get involved.

"It must be a constructive role," said Peres. So far, "they have been one-sided, taking the side of the Arabs in the most militant camps."

Praising WJC chairman Edgar Bronfman, whose efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry have come under attack from right-wing circles here, Peres confirmed that Bronfman had served as a conduit for a letter from Peres to Mikhail Gorbachev.

Peres said his offer to the Soviets was for Moscow's participation in Middle East peace moves, in ex-

change for the re-establishment of diplomatic ties and free immigration to Israel of Soviet Jews.

Indirectly, said Peres, the Soviets responded by saying it's unfair for a small country to try to pressure a large one.

"We aren't making conditions. We didn't beg them. It's their wish [to be involved] more than our need. If they want a role, they must follow the rules of our game."

Saying that Moscow's attitudes to emigration are "an enigma," Peres said that all methods — demonstrations and diplomacy — are legitimate.

"Nobody," said Peres, "can point to any single method" as the only way to persuade the Soviets to release Soviet Jewry.

"But if I have to choose between Soviet Jews here or Soviet diplomats, I choose the Jews first," said Peres to the delegates' applause.

On the dais while Peres spoke was former refusenik Rabbi Eliahu Essas, who recently arrived in Israel as a result of Bronfman's efforts.

Washington's ambassador to the UN, Vernon Walters, also spoke last night. He focused on the struggle against terrorism. Former U.S. vice president Walter Mondale called on multinational corporations from the U.S., Europe and Japan to break the Arab boycott and invest in Israel. Mondale promised to lobby with such corporations, which would benefit from investing here because of the free trade zone with the U.S.

THE LIKUD was reported to be gloating and Labour Party politicians gloating over the failure of Ezer Weizman's self-appointed peace mission this week to Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak.

There certainly should be no room for gloating over the latest unveiling of the stark reality of the 65-year-old Arab-Israeli conflict. Israel, as the party mainly interested in putting an end to that dispute and in ushering in an era of peace with her Arab neighbours, should certainly not gloat over the latest evidence that her Arab neighbours do not share that interest.

But neither was there room for disappointment; for disappointment presumes misguided belief in the totally unrealistic expectations that Weizman and his supporters in Labour and to its left have been fostering.

It is admittedly painful to face up to the truth that every single shred of evidence has been pointing to for years: the expectations that the peace treaty with Egypt, signed nearly seven years ago, would lead to an overall peace with the Arab world, were just so much pie-in-the-sky, wishful thinking. One does not have to buy the bloody ideology of the sane and not-so-sane right to come to the painful conclusion that, on the issue of the Arabs' desire for peace, they and not Labour and the left, have been closer to the truth.

True, there has been the breakthrough to a formal peace treaty with Egypt; undoubtedly an important milestone in the relations with the Arab world. But there has since been a consistent Egyptian regression from the presumed spirit of the peace treaty. In the broader arena, there has been no sign of all of what is so unthinkingly called a "peace process."

The late President Sadat, who signed the peace treaty, was no more committed to fostering a warm,

friendly relationship with Israel than his counterpart, Prime Minister Menachem Begin, was committed to a real recognition of the "legitimate rights of the Palestinian people."

Sadat openly and honestly spoke of using the peace treaty as a diplomatic lever for achieving the Arab aims on the issue of Palestine; aims which are totally opposed by Labour as well as the Likud. He spoke just as openly of the need to "cut Israel down to size," using the more sophisticated diplomatic method, rather than the periodic frontal military confrontations, which had proved so futile and costly to the Arabs.

President Mubarak has not diverged from those aims, except in style; which is less theatrical and less misleading than that of his media and public relations-conscious predecessor.

PERHAPS THE best thing that could come of the abortive Weizman mission is the driving home of the truth of how marginal the entire issue of Tabu is to the cause of the fostering of friendly relations with Egypt. Egypt has a case on Tabu; but the entire issue pales into insignificance compared with the refusal of the Egyptian leadership to work against the profound anti-Israeli sentiments in Egypt, not to mention the rest of the Arab world.

The abortive mission should also provide persuasive proof of the basic silliness of the belief in the efficacy of personal charm, ex-fighter pilot to ex-fighter pilot personal rapport, as a counterweight to national interest

and national ideology.

The evidence also seems to indicate that similar, coldly realistic conclusions hold true in regard to the failure to make any progress towards meaningful peace talks with Jordan. What seems to be happening in the attempts to keep that American initiative alive is a heroic attempt to find a formula to legitimize massive American arms sales to Jordan and possibly American recognition of the PLO.

The lesson of the three and a half years that have passed since the floating of the Reagan Plan of September 1982 is that it is not enough to want peace, to sing songs about peace, and to hold academic seminars about peace, in order actually to bring about a change of heart in the Arab world; or even in part of it, in regard to making its peace with the reality of a sovereign Jewish Israel in its midst.

Arab opinion continues to view the very existence of Israel as horrendously sinful. Neither the ceding of Tabu, nor a territorial compromise on the West Bank can be expected to change that attitude.

It is admittedly consternating to most Israelis, including many Likud voters, to come to the conclusion that there is nothing Israel can concede, short of national suicide, that could be expected to bring about such an Arab change of heart. But such is the situation, and we will have to learn to live with such a reality, as painful as it may be, until there is persuasive evidence to the contrary.

Grim facts of life

YOSEF GOELL

SO WHAT is so wrong about trying, as Prime Minister Peres has spent so much time, energy and patience in doing over the past year?

There is certainly nothing wrong in trying. One of the real gains of that trying, and of the difference in style that Peres has ushered in, is a real improvement in Israel's image in critical Western political opinion. It is a moot question as to how long-lasting that improvement will prove to be; but the change for the good is undeniable.

But there is a price for trying and failing, both in the broader national sense and in the narrower partisan one. Our leaders create the impression that peace is just around the corner, if we would just be a bit more forthcoming on small marginal concessions. But this can have an undermining effect on our determination and ability to continue withstanding Arab hostility over the long run. It is essential that our leaders develop a fine balance between visibly taking initiatives for peace and simultaneously schooling the nation in the murderous realities of the Middle East in which we live.

IN THIS connection, I must apologize for the flippancy tone which crept into my article last week on the fighting in South Yemen. So far, more people have been killed in that two-week uprising than Israel has lost in all her wars against the Arabs in 38 years. South Yemen is the real Arab Middle East. So is Libya; so is the prospect of an internal blood-bath in Egypt; so is the Iraq-Iran

war, in which a reported 100,000 people have been killed on both sides; and, of course, Lebanon.

Creating the impression that we are on the verge of turning the Middle East into a replica of the situation on the American-Cuba border is the height of irresponsibility.

But there is also a narrow, admittedly partisan price to pay in spreading the real political message of the Middle East. Ever since the traumatic electoral defeat in 1977, the dominant Labour Party leadership has succumbed to the temptation to articulate an Arab peace whose major purpose is to accommodate what differentiates Labour from the Likud.

Continuation of such a strategy is a sure-fire formula for Labour's loss in the next election. The majority of the Israeli electorate, and certainly the voters in the me who held the key to a Labour Likud victory, are much more likely to vote on the Arab question than mainstream of the Labour Knesset faction. Guessing wrong on the prospects of a breakthrough, either by Egypt or with Jordan — unlikely in the next few months — in prove fatal for Labour's election prospects.

The problem is that while Labour has been wrong on the prospects of peace, the Likud, as shown by tragic misadventure in Lebanon, has been much more wrong in its chip-on-the-shoulder stance of a calculated belligerence.

If there is nothing Israel can do to hasten peace, there is much that can do to prevent such a situation of no-peace from descending into shooting war. In this regard, the prospect of a reprise of the 1977 Likud government is daunting, indeed.

Yosef Goell is a Jerusalem Post writer on political affairs.

READERS' LETTERS

ISC CONFERENCE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir: — The headline of your report of January 27 on former Nato Secretary-General Joseph Luns's address to the ISC conference on "State terrorism and the international system" was misleading, as were omissions regarding participation. Allow me to put the record straight.

Though Causa Internationalis is the sponsor, the Security Council, which organized the conference, is completely independent in deciding on the subject of the conference, the participation, the programme and its conduct. ISC President Dr. Joseph Churba was President Reagan's Middle East adviser during the 1980 campaign and served as senior policy adviser to the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency until 1982. The chairman of the present conference is Ambassador Charles Lichtenstein, former deputy head of the U.S. mission to the UN.

I am not "Israel office director" of the ISC. I am on the ISC's international advisory committee.

The importance of the conference subject to Israel and the experts and opinion moulders who participated led to the correct Foreign Ministry and IDF decision to have their experts take part. The Foreign Ministry sent Ambassador Ariele Levin, Director of its Research and In-

formation Centre.

Prof. Yuval Ne'eman was not a participant, though he was an honoured guest at the Luns dinner. You did not mention Abba Eban, who, but for a delay in Paris, was to introduce Mr. Luns, nor Ambassador Gideon Raphael who did introduce him, Ambassador Yehuda Blum who was a featured speaker or Aluf Yehoshua Saguy, another participant.

Your headline was also in not very good taste regarding other important participants, such as Lt.-Gen. Gordon Sumner, former U.S. ambassador at large and chairman of the Inter-American Defence Board, Lt.-Gen. Davidson, who commanded U.S. troops in Europe, Joel Lisker, chief counsel of the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Security and Terrorism, the editor of *Encounter* and distinguished former presidents of Peru and Costa Rica.

SHAUL RAMATI

Jerusalem.

The Jerusalem Post headline and report made explicit what the letter writer still seeks to veil — that the sponsor of the conference, whether directly or indirectly, was the Unification Church headed by the Reverend Sun Myung Moon. — Ed. J.P.

REHABILITATION CENTRES FOR YOUTH

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir: — Referring to the article of Aviva Bar-Am, "Old enough to know better" (January 12), I should like to point out that the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs operates and supervises 35 *mifnim* in different places in the country.

These day centres within the community are geared to give special rehabilitation services to youth with the age group of 12-15 who are also school drop-outs, either in serious danger of becoming delinquents or having already engaged in anti-social activities prior to their referral.

The goal of these *mifnim* is to prepare these youngsters to find their place in society and to become better adjusted and productive citizens.

To achieve this goal, great emphasis is placed on the socialization process of each individual using varied activities within the *mifnim* as social agents in furthering personal progress. On the day-to-day level,

the *mifnim* aims at imparting to its trainees elementary school knowledge acquainting them with work habits and the basic elements of trade, as well as hygiene, order, discipline, responsibility, precision, perseverance, etc.

Follow-up studies have shown the effectiveness of the *mifnim* rehabilitation programme whereby 80 per cent of the graduates were satisfactorily integrated in their work and surroundings.

I should also like to draw the attention of your readers to the newly formed group of *Mifnim's* Friends headed by Ms. Francis Frey, in Afeke, tel. 03-421607, whose aim is to mobilize volunteers for the work within the *mifnim* as well as to the valuable volunteer work being done for the *mifnim* by Mr. Yaakov Katan of Caesarea heading the Youth Training Fund.

SIMCHA GLASER
Director, Youth Rehabilitation Services Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
Jerusalem.

BEGGARS AT THE GATE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir: — From all I have read in The Post about the Temple Mount, it seems to me that the policy is to forget and try hard to make others forget that the Temple Mount is the holiest place for Jews, to which they turn in their prayers.

It is only the third holy place for Moslems who turn to Mecca when praying.

It hurts and humiliates to see Jews standing, like beggars, at the gate of their holiest place when all their crime is their wish to realize their right to pray on the Temple Mount. I can imagine how people like Sarid would have raised hell (and rightly so) had the beggars at the gate been non-Jews.

Under Israeli rule there is full freedom for all religions in Jeru-

salem, as never existed in the past. But why should Jews be discriminated against?

Let the Ministry for Religious Affairs allot a decent place on the Temple Mount — at a reasonable distance from the mosque and kosher in accordance with Halacha (here Rabbi Goren could help) where Jews can pray with dignity.

As a good pupil of my grandpa (a proud Jew who preached and practised Jewish-Arab co-existence in Old Jerusalem more than 100 years ago) I ask: why can't there be coexistence in prayer on the Temple Mount? Let the holy Temple Mount be a place for peaceful worshippers and visitors, and be kept out of bounds to fanatics and inciters-to-violence — be they Arabs or Jews.
Jerusalem.
E. PINTO

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EXTRADITION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir: — Dennis Gouldman, head of the Justice Ministry's international section, portrays inaccurately Israel's activities in the area of extraditions (January 26).

Mr. Gouldman is responsible for getting back to Israel such notorious fugitives as suspected multi-million dollar embezzler Moshe Stern, alleged defrauders Moshe and Yigal Gindi, and Nazi murderers, as well as "dozens" of Israelis who have fled abroad after allegedly committing crimes here. Astutely, he points out that "extradition is not a one-way street" and that his office currently has about 40 extradition requests from foreign countries. Later, Mr. Gouldman admits that, under Israeli law, extradition is a one-way street because Israel will not hand over an Israeli citizen clever enough to have returned to Israel before getting caught for an offence he committed abroad.

We are left to wonder why on earth any foreign government should deliver to us a Stern or a Gindi knowing that we will not reciprocate. Mr. Gouldman answers that, "often, if the crime is severe enough, the (the Israeli sought by a foreign government) will be tried here under Israel law."

Baloney! Since the 1977 amendment of the Extradition Law to which Mr. Gouldman refers, no person who was an Israeli citizen when he allegedly committed a crime abroad has been sent out of Israel to face his accusers nor has any such person been tried in Israel under Israel law. While only the Knesset can change the existing Extradition Law, the Justice Ministry can — but, so far, has not — prosecute in Israel under it. The results are obvious — Israel is becoming a haven for crooks and scoundrels of every stripe.

The international law enforcement community is all too aware of this sordid state of affairs and can therefore not be expected to be overly enthusiastic about handing over to us the likes of Moshe Stern or the Gindi brothers.

PAUL KORDA

Former Staff Attorney,

Justice Ministry,

International Section

Mevaseret Zion.

RED LINE AGREEMENT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir: — In his "Living with the missile threat" (January 23), Mr. Gideon Raphael assaults history, while urging Israel restraint towards Syria. He wishes Syria "should wish to avoid" any confrontation. One could wish Mr. Raphael were running Syria, so it might "wish" as it "should."

Damascus, but not Jerusalem, needs his counsel of "restraint."

To stop PLO/KGB genocide of Lebanese Christians in 1976, Israel tolerated Syria occupying Lebanon down to a border area red line. Mr. Raphael errs in claiming the "red line agreement" was strictly observed by Syria, "even when Israeli forces came close to the Syrian lines in southeast Lebanon in a major counter-terror operation in 1978."

The operation arose from a deliberate Syrian breach of the "red line." The coast bus massacre triggered Operation Litani, but ten days earlier, on March 5, 1978, the Syrians deliberately defied the "red line" he claims they "observed"

when the Syrian-directed Saida terrorist force seized a strategic hilltop border village, Maroun al-Ras, dominating Lebanese Major Tami Nidac's Rmaich enclave, and 5 km. Israel's vital North Road. That day, Israel challenged all Israel's deterrence credibility.

Mr. Raphael also claims that, the Zahle helicopter incident of early 1982, Syria "strictly observed" the "red line agreement," "when" IAF downed two Syrian army helicopters during the Phalangis provoked fighting in Zahle.

Behind Syrian lines, undefended Zahle, the largest Mid-East Christian city, was hostage to Syria's artillery. Contrary to Mr. Raphael's history in 1982, the Lebanese forces opened a road to Zahle, not to "provok fighting," but trying to end its isolation. And Israel acted not to help "Phalangis provoked fighting," but to counter the use of Syrian aerial there, that directly breached that "red line agreement."

GRANT B. LIVINGSTON
Jerusalem.

THE FOUNDING OF WIZO

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir: — I have just read in your issue of January 20 that Wizo is holding its conference in Tel Aviv, and I wonder how many of your readers know exactly how Wizo came to be founded.

It happened in Manchester. My father, the late N.I. Adler, who lived in Manchester at the time of the Sieffs, Simon Marks, Harry Sacher, and of course Dr. Weizmann, was on intimate terms with them all. When the Sieffs were in Manchester, there were regular tea sessions Saturday afternoons at their home in Didsbury.

The discussions, of course, were about Zionism. One Saturday afternoon, Mrs. Sieff turned to my father, and said that she had wanted for a long time to form a women's Zionist organization, but her husband would not hear of it. My father thought it was a marvellous idea.

When it came to Zionism, my father could be very persuasive, and he worked on Israel Sieff for some

weeks. Then one Saturday afternoon, Israel Sieff turned to his wife and said: "Adler has persuaded me to let you form your women's organization. I give you 12 months, and it will fold up."

Well, readers, we can all see what an organization Wizo is now and what wonderful work they have done and are doing.

ARTHUR ADLER
Kiryat Motzkin (Liverpool).

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